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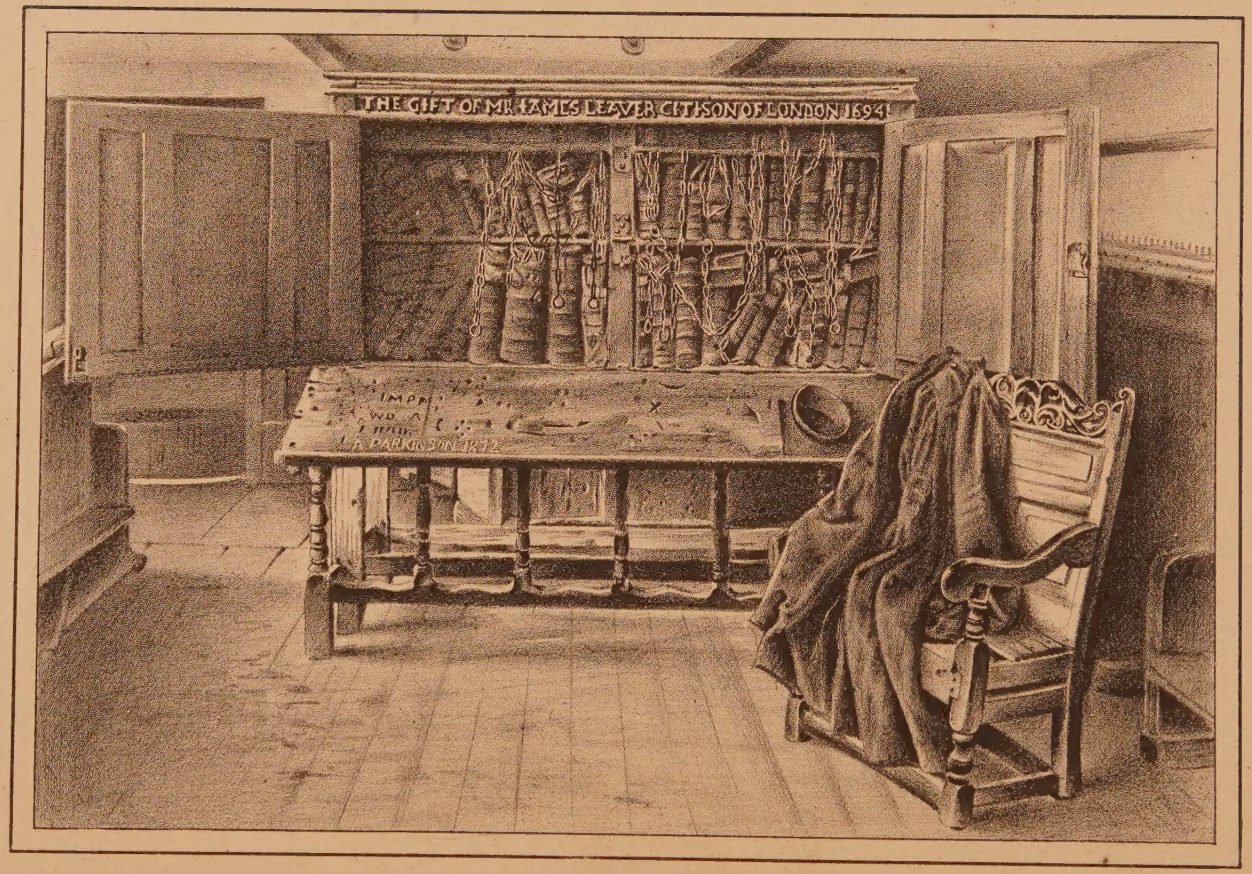

OLD LIBRARY, BOLTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

The Library Chronicle.

NOTES ON THE PUBLIC LIBRARIES OF PLYMOUTH, DEVONPORT AND STONEHOUSE.[1]

By Mr. Alderman John Shelly.

THE Plymouth Proprietary Library in Cornwall Street is the oldest and largest of the Libraries in these three adjoining towns. It was founded in 1810, the capital being raised in shares of £30 each. Originally called the Plymouth Public Library, its title was altered after the opening of the Free Public Library. The building in Cornwall Street was opened in 1813, the books having been kept up to that time in the old Guildhall, which is now occupied by the Free Library. As enlarged in 1853 it contains on the ground floor, an entrance hall, a large and lofty library lighted from above, surrounded by a gallery, a news-room and reading-room, with offices, and sub-librarian's residence, and on the upper floor two rooms containing the Cottonian Library and Museum, and the library of the Law Society. An adjoining house has lately been purchased with a view to the further extension of the library. There are at present 204 shares, the proprietors of which subscribe £2 2s. each per annum. No sale of a share is recognised until the purchaser has been balloted for and elected by a majority of the Committee. Subscribers introduced by a proprietor are entitled to the use of the library and news-room on payment of £3 3s., or of the library only on payment of £2 2s. per annum. Subscriptions are also received for shorter periods. The library is managed by a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Committee of sixteen members elected annually, four members of the retiring Committee being ineligible for re-election. The income in 1884 was £608 9s. 5d., of which £119 11s. 2d. was expended in the purchase of books, and £78 11s. 4d. in magazines and newspapers. The news-room and reading-room are supplied with all the principal daily and weekly papers and magazines. The library is open every day except Sundays, Good Friday and Christmas-day, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., the news-room being open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. The staff

[1] Read at the Plymouth Meeting, Sept. 15th, 1885.

consists of a librarian, who attends from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m., and a sub-librarian, who lives in the building. The library is closed from the 20th of June every year for about three weeks (which seems an unnecessarily long time) for cleaning and the examination of the books. The number of vols. in 1854 was about 15000. The librarian, Mr. Whitmarsh, tells me that it is now estimated to exceed 25000. The number of issues last year was of books, 13998, and of periodicals, 4740. The printed Catalogue, dated 1876, is arranged according to subjects, and is very unsatisfactory. There is a printed Supplement of books added down to 1879 arranged alphabetically.

The library contains a set of the publications of the Record Commissioners and of the Calendars and Chronicles issued under the direction of the Master of the Rolls. Among other valuable books may be noted a first folio of Shakespeare (imperfect, with the title-page, &c. supplied in facsimile), a copy of Halliwell's edition of Shakespeare, 16 vols. folio, 1854-66, Cranmer's Bible, 1541 (imperfect), Erasmus' Testament, Greek and Latin, folio, 1522, Brian Walton's Polyglot, 6 vols. folio, 1657, a Prayer Book of 1706, containing at the end of the Occasional Offices, and before the Articles of Religion, the office to be used "At the Healing,"[1] a fine copy of Dugdale's Monasticon, 8 vols. folio, 1846, with proof plates, and a MS. "Catalogue of the Armes of the Nobility and Gentry of Devonshire, Cornwall, and the City of Exon," compiled (it is believed by Sir Walter Yonge, Bart., of Culleton, Devon), in 1689, some MS. collections by James Northcote, the painter, who was a native of Plymouth, and some of his drawings. Among the recent purchases are most of Dr. Grosart's privately printed editions of old English poets, and the Memoirs of the Survey of Western Palestine issued by the Palestine Exploration Fund. There is a collection of 144 MSS. and printed books presented by Mr. Halliwell (now Mr. Halliwell-Phillipps) described in a catalogue privately printed by him (80 copies only) in 1853. This collection comprises original documents relating to Devonshire, Somerset, Dorset, Wilts (containing an autograph of Lord Burleigh), Surrey, Kent, Berks, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Gloucestershire, Worcestershire, Herefordshire, Norfolk, Lincolnshire, and Northumberland; also papers and correspondence of the Archer family of the counties of Essex, Berks and Derby, commencing in 1599, but chiefly belonging to the 18th century; diary and memoranda books of Dr. John King, of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, and Rector of Chelsea, and of Pertenhall, Bedfordshire, 1690-1731, and numerous religious and historical MSS. of the 15th, 16th and 17th centuries.

The Cottonian Library and Museum presented by the late Mr. Cotton, of Ivybridge, are placed in a room built for the purpose, on the upper floor of the Proprietary Library in Cornwall Street. A portion of the collection was deposited there in 1853 and the remainder in 1862. It is vested in trustees, of whom three are chosen by Mr. Cotton's representatives, three by the proprietors of the Proprietary Library and another by the six thus appointed. There is no fund for additions or maintenance. It is supported by the proprietors of the Proprietary Library, and is open free of charge to them and to visitors from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. No books or prints can be taken out of the library, but artists and students are allowed to make copies on obtaining a written permission from one of the trustees. The printed Catalogue comprises only the first portion of

[1] In Yonge's Plimouth Memoirs, a MS. preserved at the Plymouth Institution, it is mentioned that in August, 1667 "His mty & ye duke of York came by water to this town, staid 2 day's, his mty toucht for ye evill in or great church, dined at Mo Edgcumb and returned by sea."

the collection and even as to this is incomplete and inaccurate. There is a MS. shelf list compiled in 1878.

The collection was originally formed by Mr. Charles Rogers, F.R.S., of the Custom House, London, who died in 1784. It passed, on his death, to his brother-in-law, Mr. Wm. Cotton, and from him descended to his son, who sold a portion of the collection by auction. The sale continued twenty-one days, and realised about £4000. On his death the remainder of the collection passed into the hands of the late Mr. Cotton of Ivybridge, by whom it was presented to this Institution. The collection comprises four portraits by Sir Joshua Reynolds, viz., one of himself, one of his father, the Rev. Samuel Reynolds, who was master of the Grammar School at Plympton, near Plymouth, one of Miss Fanny Reynolds, sister to Sir Joshua, and one of Mr. Charles Rogers. It also contains pictures in oil and water-colours by Angelica Kauffmann, Maria Cosway, Paul Sandby, Barrett, and others, one of the most valuable being a Musical Conversation, a small painting on copper by Netscher, of which there is an engraving by Wille. On the walls and in the glazed case and two portfolios in one of the book-cases are drawings and sketches by the old masters. The library consists of about 2,100 vols. Its chief feature is the books of prints, among which are a fine series after Sir Joshua Reynolds, 2 vols. of Smith's mezzotints, 6 vols. of prints and etchings of landscapes, 13 vols. of prints after Italian, French, and English painters, and 7 vols. of portraits. There is also a vol. of Woollett's works and a copy of Claude's Liber Veritatis, 2 vols. fol. 1777. The books consist chiefly of works on art and kindred subjects, but there is a large collection of old plays and a volume of garlands, chap-books, and ballads, arranged and mounted. Among the books added in 1862 and not included in the printed catalogue, are Milton's Poems, 1645, Prynne's Histriomastix, 1633, Hobbe's Leviathan, 1651, a set of the Catalogues of the Royal Academy from 1769 to 1860, Lodge's Portraits, 1835, and Britton's English Cathedrals, 6 vols., 4to., 1814-35, illustrated by numerous drawings of arms in the margins of the pages. Some of the rarer and more valuable books and MSS. are exhibited in a glass case. Among these are the first Aldine edition of Poliphili Hypnerotomachia, fol., N.D. but 1499 (not 1467 as in the catalogue), a large and fine copy, but with some of the leaves a little spotted, Albert Durer's Passio Christi, 1511 (known as the Little Passion), Sebastian Brandt's Stultifera Navis, fol., Fribourg, 1498, Missale ad usum ecclesie Sarisburiensis (not London as in catalogue, but) Rouen, 1554, printed by Hamilton for Robert Valentin, Gower's Confessio Amantis, fol., 1554, with the autographs of Queen Elizabeth, Francis Atterbury, and Francis Crumwell on the title-page, the Booke of Christian Praiers, known as Queen Elizabeth's Prayer Book, 1608, and a French book of Hours, printed at Paris by Guillaume Anabat for Germain Hardouyn. It is not dated, but the almanack at the beginning runs from 1500 to 1520. It is printed on vellum with illuminated initial letters, in old French binding richly gilt with the name of Marguerite Ernault impressed on the sides. In this case there are two MSS. wrongly described in the catalogue as "Missals or Massebookes." They are both books of Hours. The larger of the two, Horae beate Marie virginis secundum usum Romanum, is $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches by 6. It consists of 193 folios and contains 24 full page illuminations, each of them surrounded by an ornamental border. It is apparently of French workmanship of the 15th century, but was probably written for use in England, as the calendar is full of English saints, and St. George (April 23rd) is marked as a greater double. There is a curious slip of the pen in the calendar, the feast of St. Augustine

of Canterbury (May 26th), being described as Augustini Angelorum [Apostolus], repeating unintentionally the pun of St. Gregory. The fifth illumination represents the martyrdom of St. Thomas of Canterbury. The smaller MS., 7 inches by 5, consists of 222 folios, and contains 12 large illuminations and several smaller. It is also French, and apparently of the latter part of the 15th century. Below the painting of the Annunciation on the 29th folio there is a coat of arms which may lead to the discovery of the family for whom the MS. was written. The arms are—azure, three teazles or, in pile, the stalks united at the base.

The library of the Incorporated Law Society of Plymouth is kept in another room on the upper floor of the library in Cornwall Street. The Society was established on the 13th June, 1815, when "several gentlemen practising the law at Plymouth at "a meeting convened at the Public Library by Henry Woollcombe the President "formed themselves into a Society for founding and maintaining a law library." It was incorporated under the Companies' Acts in 1871. The library consists of about 2000 vols.,—law reports, statutes, and text-books. It is open every week-day from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Barristers and solicitors practising within 10 miles of the Plymouth Guildhall are eligible as members of the Society. The subscription is £1 1s. per annum. The present income of the Society is £34 13s. Rent and other expenses absorb nearly £20, leaving only about 14 guineas to be spent in books and binding. There is a catalogue alphabetically arranged, printed in 1865. The librarian of the Plymouth Proprietary Library acts as librarian both of the Cottonian Library and of the Library of the Law Society.

The Plymouth Institution was formed in 1813, its original object being the reading of essays and discussions on literary and scientific subjects. It was soon resolved to form a library and museum, and the building called the Athenæum was erected in 1819 "for the delivery of lectures and for discussions on the different subjects of science, literature, and the fine arts; for the formation and use of a library, collection of apparatus and museum, and for other uses of the Society." Additional rooms for a museum and art gallery were added to the original building in 1883. In 1851 the Devon and Cornwall Natural History Society which had been established in 1838, and possessed a library of its own, was united with this Society, which was thenceforth known and was incorporated under the Companies Act in 1884 as the Plymouth Institution and the Devon and Cornwall Natural History Society. A lecture is given by one of the members every Thursday evening from the beginning of October to the end of March, and is followed by discussion. The Society publishes its transactions annually, and they contain many valuable papers on local history, antiquities and literature, geology, botany and zoology. The subscription which includes the use of the library and museum is £1 1s. per annum. The library consists of about 3250 vols. chiefly scientific. It contains the publications of the Ray Society, the Reports of the Scientific Results of the voyage of H.M.S. "Challenger," the Reports of the Meetings of the British Association, the Philosophical Magazine from 1816, the Annals and Magazine of Natural History, 1829-65, and other scientific periodicals, English and foreign. Two hundred and fifty vols. of the Calendars, Chronicles, and other publications issued under the direction of the Record Commissioners and the Master of the Rolls, have recently been presented by the Treasury to this library, and a similar gift has been made to the Free Public Library. This library also contains a collection of engravings after Northcote's works, presented by the painter himself, MS. collections

for the history of Plymouth by Mr. Henry Woollcombe, the founder, and for nearly twenty years the President of the Society, and two MSS. written by James Yonge, F.R.S. in the latter part of the 17th and beginning of the 18th century, one of them being his autobiography, and the other entitled "Plimouth Memoirs, containing a chronologicall account of that Corporation, a catalogue of all the Mayors, together with y^e^ memorable occurrences in their respective years," &c., the greater portion of which, edited and annotated by Mr. R. N. Worth, F.G.S., was printed in the Transactions of the Institution for 1876. The library is under the care of an Hon. Librarian, Mr. J. Brooking Rowe, F.S.A. There is a catalogue arranged according to subjects printed in 1870. The circulation of books is confined to members of the Society. The library is open every week-day, a book lying on the table for members to enter the titles of the books they take out. At the date of the last report there were 252 members, including 19 honorary, corresponding and life members. The income of the Society was £252 17s. 3d., of which £47 17s. 11d., was spent on the library.

The Mechanics Institute, Princess Square, Plymouth, was established in 1825. Its library contains about 8,000 vols. History, biography and general literature are fairly represented, but fiction predominates. It is open to subscribers, of whom there are about 700, every week-day from 3 to 5 and 7 to 10 p.m., except on Tuesday evenings. There is a news-room supplied with newspapers and magazines open all day to members. The subscription is 10s. per annum and 7s. for ladies and junior members. There is a MS. list of the books arranged alphabetically, but no printed catalogue. About £25 per annum is spent in the purchase of books and periodicals.

The rooms occupied as a library and reading-room by the Plymouth Mutual Co-operative and Industrial Society, in premises rented by them in Cornwall Street, are small and inconvenient, but the Society intends shortly to erect a large block of buildings in Frankfort Street, with ample accommodation for a library and reading-room, smoking and billiard-rooms. The founders of the Society when they commenced business in 1860 agreed that as soon as they were in a position to do so, they would appropriate 2½ per cent. of their profits to educational purposes. The first step towards the formation of a library was the acceptance of a few books and some numbers of *Chambers' Journal* given by members at the beginning of 1861. The library now comprises about 3500 vols. The number of issues during the last half year was 15586. There is a printed catalogue arranged alphabetically, compiled in 1884 by Mr. Burton, the librarian, to whom I am indebted for much interesting information. A classified list of the books is shown on an indicator. The library is open to members of the Society and their families only, to whom it is free. There were 1428 borrowers during the year 1884. The library is open on Monday and Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and on the other week days to 8 p.m. The 2½ per cent. set aside for educational purposes now averages about £100 a quarter, and is spent in the maintenance of the library and six reading-rooms (two in Plymouth, one in Stonehouse, two in Devonport and one at Ford), on French and shorthand classes, and lectures and entertainments. During the year 1884 there was spent in new books £62 14s. 6d.; in binding £30 1s. 4d.; and in newspapers and magazines for the reading-rooms £97 18s. 8d. The library is essentially a lending library collected by working men for working people. It is thoroughly appreciated and extensively used, and in this respect is one of the most successful and interesting of the libraries of the three towns.

The Plymouth Free Public Library was opened on the 30th of August, 1876, the Act

having been adopted in November, 1871. The building now used as a Free Library was erected in 1800 for a Guildhall, and was so used until the opening of the present Guildhall in 1874. It was in this building, as already mentioned, that the proprietary library originally found a home. As now arranged it contains on the first floor a spacious news-room lately enlarged and improved, containing newspaper slopes placed against the walls for about 70 papers, and tables for magazines and reviews in the middle of the room; a ladies' reading room, and the lending library, a large and lofty room, fitted with shelves and counter and an Indicator adapted by Mr. Wright the librarian from the Wolverhampton indicator. On an upper floor are the librarian's offices, committee-room and the reference library, also recently enlarged, in which a few curious books and prints are exhibited under glass. Rooms in the basement contain the publications of the Patent Office which if bound would form nearly 4000 vols. The library is open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., the news-room and reference library being kept open till 10 p.m. The library is closed on Bank holidays and at 4 p.m. on Wednesdays, and for a week in June and December for cleaning and re-arrangement of books. Beginning in 1876 with about 6000 vols., it now contains about 20000 vols., exclusive of the publications of the Patent Office, and the daily average of issues has risen from 347 to 594, the total issues in 1884 (during which the lending library was closed nearly a month, and the reference library nearly two months, for improvements) having been 164568. The total number of borrowers' tickets issued to the end of 1884 was 24355. It is estimated that the visits to the news-room amount to half a million a year. The library committee consists of the Mayor, six members of the council and six members chosen by the council from outside its own body. The librarian is aided by an assistant, four junior assistants and an evening assistant. The income last year from all sources was £801 13s. 6d., of which £750 was derived from the rate. The expenditure was £848 13s. 2d., of which salaries, wages and assistance absorbed £398 15s. 2d., rather a large proportion; £98 12s. 9d. was spent in books and magazines; £52 3s. 8d. in newspapers; and £77 18s. 9d. in binding and repairs of books. An index catalogue was printed in 1877, and a supplement in 1879, but the rapid growth of the library quickly rendered these insufficient. Classified lists of the books added every year have been appended to each annual report, and a very useful index catalogue of the lending department (cr. 4to, 250 pp. in double col.) was published in 1882. These catalogues have been admirably compiled by the librarian, who is now completing the MS. catalogue of the reference department. It is hoped that a hand list of this department may shortly be issued, pending the publication of the fuller catalogue, which is deferred for want of funds. An important feature of the library is the collection of works by natives of Devon and Cornwall, or published in or relating to the two Counties (class L), which having been begun with 368 vols. in 1877 now comprises 2290 vols., including some rare and valuable works. The committee and librarian are anxious to increase this department, and render it in time a fairly representative if not complete collection of local books and pamphlets. They will be grateful to any librarians or others who may kindly give or report to them local books or pamphlets which may be useless in other parts of the country, but would be interesting and highly valued here. In addition to this collection and the publications of the Patent Office, notice should be taken of an important series of publications of the trustees of the British Museum, presented by the trustees. The library contains a few rare books, chiefly presents. The aim of the committee has been not to collect

curious books, but to make the library as useful as possible for ordinary readers and students. The committee have considered proposals for extending its usefulness by opening branches in various parts of the town and its suburbs. It has been suggested by the librarian that the School Board might render help by giving the use of its schools, and that the establishment of reading-rooms for the use of children during the winter evenings might even be undertaken by the Board as a legitimate portion of its work. The establishment of branches of the lending library is the more desirable because the library at its opening absorbed three or four small libraries belonging to working men's institutions in various parts of the town. It would be a great benefit to their neighbourhoods to have these re-opened and supplied with a succession of books from the central library. It has been lately proposed that the adjoining township of East Stonehouse, which contains a population of about 15000, but has no public library should be united with Plymouth for the purposes of the Library Acts, and that a branch of the Plymouth Library and a reading-room should be opened there, and it is to be hoped that this proposal may shortly be carried into effect.

The Devonport Free Library was opened on the 6th of February, 1882, the Act having been adopted at a meeting held in November 1880. The library occupies a building formerly used as a Mechanics Institute. The Institute was established in 1825, taking the place of a Philosophical Institution which was founded in 1808 but ceased to exist in 1821. In the large hall there are busts of Mr. Burnet, one of the founders of the Institute, and Mr. R. C. Smith for some years its Secretary. The library of the Institute with which was amalgamated the Civil and Military Library, originally established in Ker Street, was the resort of a good many industrious and intelligent students. Among these were Mr. John T. Towson, the inventor of Tables to facilitate great circle sailing, who died lately at Liverpool, Mr. Robert Hunt, for many years Professor at the Royal School of Mines, Mr. J. C. Adams, the Astronomer, and Mr. Richard A. Proctor. Mr. Towson in presenting a copy of his Tables, published by order of the Admiralty in 1848, mentioned that he was led to the study of the subject by hearing a lecture at the Institute, and Mr. Adams sending his work on the Irregularities of the Motion of Uranus, 1846, wrote, "I remember with much pleasure my early connection with the Institute and the advantages which I derived from it, particularly in my astronomical studies. My acquaintance with fluxions was commenced by reading a book which I found in your library." The Free Library contains about 10000 vols., consisting of selections from the amalgamated libraries before mentioned, taken over when the building was purchased by the Town, and additions by purchase and donation since. It includes a reference library of about 700 vols. The library of the Devonport and Stonehouse Medical Society consisting of about 700 vols. was transferred to the Free Library in 1882, and is kept there for the use of members of the profession. There is no Catalogue of the Library. The income from the rate last year was £600. The amount spent in books, periodicals and newspapers was £135 18s. 4d., and in binding and repairs to books £22 17s. 11d. Mr. Chas. R. Rowe, to whom I am indebted for these particulars, tells me that the library and reading room are becoming increasingly popular. I cannot but think, however, that the want of a catalogue must greatly hinder the usefulness of the library.

The Christ Church (Unitarian) Congregational Library at Devonport consists of about 1400 vols., chiefly sermons and theological works by Clergy of the Church of England and Unitarian and other Nonconformist Divines of the last century. It

contains however, some theological works of a more recent date, and a few volumes of history, biography and general literature, and some unbound magazines. Unfortunately several sets of books are incomplete, among which is a fine copy of Dr. Priestley's Works in 25 vols. 4to., four of which are missing. The library is kept in a room over the vestry, and is open free of charge to members of the congregation, and to any person introduced or recommended by a member. There is a MS. catalogue compiled two years ago. There is no fund for additions or for the maintenance of the library.

In connection with most of the Sunday Schools in the three towns, there are libraries consisting chiefly of books for children, but I am not aware of any public libraries except those which I have described. Taken altogether they contain about 76700 vols., for a population according to the last census of the municipal boroughs of Plymouth and Devonport and the Township of East Stonehouse of 138966, or at the present time, and including the suburbs, probably exceeding 150000. They are however very unevenly distributed. A library and reading room are wanted at Stonehouse, and branch libraries and reading rooms at Stoke, Mutley and the eastern end of Plymouth.

THE BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE "HISTORY OF THE WORLD," AND OF THE "REMAINS" OF SIR WALTER RALEGH.

By T. N. Brushfield, M.D.

Having been for some time past engaged in the formation of a Bibliography of Sir Walter Ralegh, it has been reported to me that probably some of the results of my investigations would not be uninteresting to the present meeting; partly as the subject has not received much attention at the hands of literary men, and partly from its local interest. I purpose to limit my notes to the various editions of that author's *History of the World*, and of the *Remains*, with some reference to the various tractates of which the latter consists.

Sir Walter's magnum opus, the *History of the World*, made its first appearance in the year 1614, according to the date on the frontispiece, although there is reason to believe it was not issued until the following year. From that time until the year 1687, a series of editions was published, in all about ten, and of folio size similar to the first; an evidence of the extraordinary and continuous popularity of the work. The main features of each are very similar and, as they all include the following contents, some account of them is necessary to show the variations, &c., in the different issues.

1. An allegorical frontispiece.
2. Explanatory verses.
3. Title-page and portrait.
4. Preface.
5. Table of contents.
6. *The History of the World.*
7. Chronological table.
8. Index,

and in the last two editions (1677 and 1687),

9. Life of the author.

1. *An allegorical frontispiece*, engraved by R. Elstrack. The imprint in the later editions is very faint, and shows evidence of having been retouched with the graver. In the centre is the title 'The History of the World'; but to bibliographers the most important portion is the inscription at the base. This, in the first edition, runs thus: "At London Printed for Walter Byrre. 1614." Now, in all the issues, up to and inclusive of that in 1634, no alteration whatever was made in this frontispiece, the inscription and date remaining as in the first edition; at the same time, the proper date of publication was always contained in the printer's colophon at the end of the work. It is important to bear this in mind: as for want of this knowledge many persons have believed themselves to possess a copy of the first edition, whereas, had they consulted the colophon—the only correct guide to date—they would have ascertained the proper year of publication. As bearing upon this point, I may mention a singular error that has crept into the *British Museum Catalogue of Early Printed Books*, in the following note, appended to the descriptive account of the 1634 edition of Sir Walter's *History*: "The title-page of the edition of 1614 is prefixed to this copy." The edition of 1614 had no title-page: the copy in question has a title-page undated, as usual, the earliest one bearing the year of publication being that of 1666: by "title-"page" in the Catalogue, is meant the *frontispiece*, dated 1614, and from what has already been stated, is its proper one, the colophon alone giving the proper year, 1634. After 1634, the colophon was omitted from all subsequent editions, and in lieu of it an alteration was made in the frontispiece, the original inscription at its base was erased, and in place of it was inserted in each edition the names of the publishers, and date of publication. That of 1652, the first one so altered, bears the following at its base: "London printed for R. Best, Io. Place, and Sam. Cartwright and are to be sould at "Graies Inn and Furnivalls Inn gates in Holborne and at the hand and Bible in Duck "Lane 1652." Another issue took place in the same year, and the only way in which it can be recognised is by the variation of this inscription.

2. *A copy of verses*, explanatory of the frontispiece, entitled "The Mind of the "Front." Although not signed, it is known to have been written by Ben Jonson. It is included in the collected works of the latter, in which, however, it shows considerable alteration. Generally printed on a leaf facing the frontispiece, but sometimes on the back of the latter.

3. *Title-page and portrait.* These are absent from the first edition. The title-page of the 1617, and of all subsequent editions is headed "The History [Historie] of "the World. In Five Books [list of contents]. By Sir Walter Ralegh Knight." In all issues up to and including the two of 1652 the lower part is occupied by a portrait, engraved by S. Pass, and inscribed "The true and lively portraiture of the honourable and learned Knight S^r^ Walter Ralegh." In the volumes from 1666 to 1687, the portrait is printed on a separate leaf; and the base of the title-page contains the publishers' names, and the date similar to the frontispiece. Those of 1677 and 1687 contain an addition to be noticed presently.

This portrait of Sir Walter was copied, and appeared as a frontispiece to all his minor works, until it was supplanted by the one engraved by Vertue, which made its first appearance in 1736, in Oldys' edition of the *History*.

4. *Preface* occupies 11 to 20 leaves. Is paged in the 1687 edition alone, i-xxxij.

5. *Table of contents* varies from 11 to 20 leaves.

6. *The History*. The paging, &c., vary considerably. From the volume published

in 1614, to that of 1652, it is printed in single columns, and is paged in two divisions or parts :—

1614	pp. 1-651, 1-776.
1617 to 1652	1-555, 1-669.

The remaining issues from 1666 to 1687 have double columns, and the paging is continuous :—

1666 and 1671	pp. 1-1143.
1677	1-885.
1687	1-813.

7. *The chronological table* has 14 leaves in all editions.

8. *Index* varies from 9 to 16 leaves.

9. *Life of Sir W. Ralegh.* The volume published in 1677, contains this addition to the title-page : "Whereunto is added in this Edition, the Life and Tryal of the "Author." This was probably an after-thought of the publishers, as some copies possess another title-page, without this addition. A similar entry appears on that of the 1687 issue.

This *Life* bears no author's name or initials, nor does the reprint of it published in 8vo. form in the same year (1677). There can be no doubt that the folio form preceded the 8vo., as all the errors contained in the former are corrected in the latter. I may mention a glaring one : the name of "Edward Littlebury Gent." is included in the list of jurymen, raising the number to 13; this was omitted in the 8vo. volume. That the folio form was published separately is tolerably certain. The *Life* contained in the 1687 edition of the *History of the World*, in the British Museum Library, has a separate title-page, on which appears "the third edition"; and the names of the publishers differ from those of the *History*. Moreover, many of the earlier issues of the latter work contain copies of the *Life*, as late insertions.

Though published anonymously, there appears to be a general consensus of opinion that it was written by *a* Shirley, but by which of that name, authorities differ. Edwards (*Life of Sir W. Ralegh* I, xlvi, xlvii) divides his opinion between Benjamin Shirley, "of "whom nothing is distinctly known," and James Shirley, the dramatist, who died in 1666, eleven years prior to the publication of the work. The authorship is assigned to Benjamin Shirley in the British Museum Library Catalogue, on what grounds I do not know. His name certainly appears in the list of publishers of the 8vo. volume, but this can scarcely be received as sufficient evidence in favor of his being the writer. Wood (*Athen. Ox.* (1691) II, 486.) states that the author was John Shirley, and in a copy of the work in the Bodleian Library, "written by Io. Shirley," is inscribed on the title-page. Halkett and Laing (*Anonym. Dict.*) declare this to be in the handwriting of Wood, who was contemporary with Shirley, and this opinion appears to me to be the correct one.

Some of the editions require a few passing remarks. There were two issues in 1614, both anonymous, and destitute of title-pages. One contains a leaf of errata; this is wanting in the other, but all the errata in the latter have been corrected. According to their respective colophons, the second edition was published in 1617, and the third in 1621; but the latter is certainly the same edition as the former, the date alone being altered. Taking into consideration this fact, with that which I have already noted in the instance of the two 1614 issues, we may fairly conclude that the whole of the work was kept up in type permanently.

I have already remarked on the slight difference between the two issues of 1652. Of the two published respectively in 1666 and 1671, the latter is of the same edition as the former, with a new title page; and its frontispiece (in the only copy I have seen)

bears the earlier date. In some copies of the 1666 volume, the frontispiece bears the date 1665.

I have records of editions of 1614 (2), 1617, 1621, 1624, 1628, 1634, 1652 (2), 1666, 1671, 1677, 1678 and 1687. Of those bearing the dates 1624 and 1678, I have reason to believe that unintentional errors have been made by the writers recording them, and that they were probably intended for the volumes published in 1621 or 1634, and in 1687. Excluding these, and reckoning the double issues of 1614 and 1652, as one only in each of those years, the number of editions may be set down as ten; and the correctness of this is confirmed by that of 1736 being designated on its title-page as "the eleventh edition."

In 1736, another and the last of the folio editions, was published, a separate notice of which is required, owing to the many points of difference it presents when compared with the volumes that preceded it. A new *Life* of Sir Walter, by W. Oldys, replaced the earlier one by J. Shirley; the allegorical frontispiece and explanatory verses disappeared; and a new portrait by Vertue was substituted for the one by S. Pass. This, according to Bliss (in Wood's *Ath. Ox.* (1815) II, 240) is "the best edition on every account;" but an examination of the work itself, nothwithstanding the assurance on the title-page, as to its being "printed from a Copy revised by [the author] himself," scarcely bears out this favorable opinion. Without giving details I will here content myself by referring to the prefatory remarks in vol. I of the *Collected Works* of Sir Walter Raleigh, published in 1829 at Oxford. Since 1736, two 8vo. editions of the *History* have appeared; one in 1820 (Edinburgh, 6 vols.); and one in the Oxford edition just referred to (1829, 8 vols.), of which the *History* occupies vols. II to VII. The great popularity of the work is proved, not only by the number of these editions, but also in two other ways. First in the publication of two *Abridgments* of the History by different authors, one in 1650 by Alexander Ross, the other in 1698 by Lawrence Echard: the latter passed through three other editions, in the last of which (1708) the Abridgment is considerably enlarged. Secondly, by the same writers publishing distinct from each other "a Continuation of the famous History of Sir Walter Raleigh" in 1652 and 1708.

The *Remains* of Sir Walter Raleigh was, undoubtedly, next to the *History of the World*, the most popular and the most frequently reprinted of Sir Walter's works. The date of the first edition has proved somewhat of a stumbling block to bibliographers. Lowndes assigns it to 1660, and Watts to 1661, but its publication took place several years earlier. The first edition appeared in 1651, and had no distinctive name, the title-page containing simply a list of the principal contents. The same may be said of the next published in 1656. The third, issued in 1657, bore for the first time a special title, *Remains of Sir Walter Raleigh*, which it retained through all the subsequent editions. The contents are of a miscellaneous character, and the following is a list of them :—

1. Maxims of State.
2. Advice to his Son; his Son's advice to his Father.
3. The Sceptick.
4. Observations on the magnificency, &c., of Cities.
5. Seat of Government.
6. Observations touching Trade, &c., with the Hollander.
7. Letters.
8. Poems.
9. Speech immediately before he was beheaded.
10. The Prerogative of Parliaments.

The edition of 1661, and all subsequent to it contain the whole of these subjects; but this is not the case with the earlier issues. That of 1651 omits 1, 2, 6 and 10; whereas in those of 1656 and 1657, one only is absent in each, No. 10 in the former, and No. 6 in the latter. Editions were published in 1651, 1656, 1657, 1661, 1664, 1669, 1675, 1681 and 1702.

All the copies contain a portrait of Sir Walter as a frontispiece. Up to and including that of 1664, it is from the same plate and is inscribed "Jo. Vaughan, sculp." In the remaining issues, it is from a new plate in facsimile, but less satisfactory, and there is no engraver's name.

The first article in all the volumes, excepting that of 1651, is the *Maxims of State.* This was first published, and as a separate work in 1642, and was then entitled "The Prince or Maxims of State. Written by Sir Walter Rawley, and presented to Prince Henry." In all subsequent reprints, the first portion of the title, "The Prince," was omitted.

2. *Advice to his Son: his Sons advice to his Father.* "Advice" is frequently replaced by "Instructions." It made its first appearance as a separate work in 1632, in which year there were two issues; another was published in 1636. It was reprinted, and generally with a separate title, in all the editions of the *Remains*, except that of 1651. Oldys affirms it was included in the latter, but this is a mistake.

3. *The Sceptick.* Bibliographers have made two errors with respect to this tract. First, in reporting it as a work published separately, due apparently to its being the first named on the title-page of the 1651 edition of the *Remains.* Second, by combining its title, in an extraordinary manner, with that of the next tract, as though one work and one subject. It appears thus in the pages of Watts, and of Hazlitt (*Collect. & Notes*, 1876): "Sceptick, or Speculations and Observations of the Magnificency and Opulency of Cities;" and this is repeated in the British Museum Library Catalogue. In Lowndes' work, however, the fusion and confusion are simply awful: the following is his version:—"Sir Walter Raleigh's Sceptick, and Speculations on the Opulency of Cities!" The first appearance of the *two* works was in the 1651 edition of the Remains, on the title-page of which is the following description of them:—"Sir Walter Raleigh's Sceptick, or Speculations. And Observations of the Magnificency and Opulency of Cities." The blunder alluded to is due to, and is a very striking example of, inattention to punctuation; and could not possibly have occurred if the writers had "minded their stops." The period (.) after "Speculations," appears to have been unnoticed, and hence the singular combination of the title of a philosophical with that of a political work.

10. *The Prerogative of Parliaments.* This was first published in 1628, in which year according to the respective title-pages it was printed in London, Midelburge, and Hamburgh—three separate issues, but all bearing a close resemblance to each other. It was reprinted in all the editions of the *Remains*, except those of 1651 and 1656. In its Dedication it showed considerable variation. In 1628, it was "dedicated to the Kings Maiestie and to the House of Parliament now assembled;" in 1657 "to all that part of the Parliament now assembled;" and afterwards "to the Kings most excellent Majestie."

6. All editions of the *Remains*, except those of 1651 and 1657 contain the following:—

(*a.*) "Sir Walter Raleigh's Observations, touching Trade and Commerce

with the Hollander, and other Nations, as it was presented to K. James. Wherein is proved, that our Sea and Land Commodities serve to enrich and strengthen other Countries against our owne. With other Passages of high Concernment. London: Printed by T. H. and are to be sold by William Sheeres, at the sign of the Bible, over against the North door of S. Pauls, 1653."

Although printed in 1653, it was not incorporated with the *Remains* until 1656. As it is paged separately from the rest of the work, has its own title-page, and contains a duplicate of *The Seat of Government*, it was evidently intended to be published by itself, but whether this was carried into effect, is not now known.

I now desire to draw especial attention to four works, all of which I have collated with the one now under consideration. Their titles I give in full:—

(*b.*) A Cleare and Evident Way For enriching the Nations of England and Ireland, And for setting very great Numbers of Poore on Work. London: Printed by T. M. and A. C. and are sold by John Saywell at the Grey-hound in Little Britain, 1650."

(*c.*) "Some Collections of Sir Walter Rawley's presented to King James, taken out of his Remains, discovering England's loss for want of due Improvement of its Native Commodities." Contained in a tract entitled "England's Interest asserted, in the Improvement of its Native Commodities . . . By a true Lover of His Majesty and Native Country. . . . 1669."

(*d.*) Select Observations of the Incomparable Sir Walter Raleigh, Relating to Trade, Commerce and Coin. As it was Presented to King James. Wherein is Proved; that our Money, our Sea and Land Commodities, serve to enrich and Strengthen other Countries against our Own. With other Matters of the highest Moment for the Publick Welfare. London: Printed for J. S. and are to be Sold by R. Baldwin, near Oxford-Arms-Inn in Warwick Lane, MDCXCVI."

(*e.*) "Sir Walter Raleigh's Observations on the British Fishery, and several other Points relating to Trade and Commerce. By him address'd and presented to King James I. London: Reprinted in the year M,DCC,XX."

All these (*b* to *e*) are versions of the one whose title heads the list (*a. Obs. touching Trade . . . with the Hollander*); and the three latter, with the exception of some minor additions and omissions, are almost identical with it, and assign the authorship to Sir Walter Raleigh. That of 1669 (*c.*) omits the section 'Touching Manufactory' [*Remains* (1702), 146-149]. The version of 1696 contains a Preface signed J. S., and at pp. 8-11, "Some additional remarks and observations relating to Coin and Trade." In the last, published in 1720, there is an address by "the Printer to the Reader"—a copy of the one that appeared in the 1653 work (*a.*); and a portion, corresponding to part of p. 152, and all of pp. 153-4 of the *Remains* (ed. 1702) is omitted. In the British Museum Catalogue, this version of 1720 is marked Sir W. Ralegh, "*Pseud.*" It need scarcely be mentioned that if this be correct, all the other versions must be deemed so.

There remains for consideration the work published in 1650 (*b*), and which was unknown to Oldys (*Life of Sir W. Raleigh* (1736), clxxxi). It is reported in the British Museum Catalogue, as "a slightly altered reprint of Sir W. Raleigh's "'Observations upon Trade, &c.,'" overlooking the fact that it was published three years earlier. It has a dedicatory preface, addressed "To the people of England "and Ireland; whether Nobles, Gentry or Commons;" and is signed, "Your, or

"the Nations Humble Servant, J. D." When collated with the edition of 1653, its priority of date proves it to be of little value. It is well known that many duplicate copies of Sir Walter's minor works existed in various libraries long before they were printed. Oldys (Op. cit. clxxxi) remarks of this very treatise, "there are several "manuscripts . . . in the libraries of our nobility and gentry (more ancient than the "earliest edition in print)." That the editor of this 1650 version obtained a copy of one of these MSS., and then mutilated it to serve his own purpose, would appear to be more than probable and for these reasons :—

1st. By its being changed from the 1st into the 3rd person.

2nd. By many omissions, and a few minor additions.

3rd. By leaving out the names of James I and of Sir W. Ralegh.

4th. By expunging the word 'Majesty,' except in one instance.

The copy of 1653 is addressed to King James, and commences "May it please "your excellent Majesty;" whereas that of 1650 begins, "Some years past was presented "to his late Majesty," implying that it was presented to Charles I.

5th. By the substitution of a new concluding paragraph, which is very remarkable for containing the real reasons for publication, and is so mercenary in character, that I cannot refrain from extracting it at length, directing special attention to the portion in italics :—"There's but one Objection against this noble and gallant Enterprise; which is,—They who shall adventure as a State-Merchant, must expect to lose for divers' years, as in all new Beginnings of Trade men do. The answer is, *That the Publisher of this will undertake to lay down a way how to bring in* 10, 15, *or* 20 *in the Hundred profit, from the first, as evidently as a man shall expect* 8 *per cent upon good Security.*"

Before concluding I would draw attention to the following work, which affects the authorship of the five short treatises we have just been considering : "Who is the author of the Tract entitled 'Some observations touching trade and commerce with the Hollander and other nations', commonly ascribed to Sir Walter Raleigh? By Adolf Buff of Augsburg." (*Englische Studien*, Heilbronn, 8vo, Band I (1877), 187-212). Up to the time of Oldys, the treatise in question was universally admitted to be the genuine production of Sir W. Ralegh, but that author in 1736 (*Op. cit.* clxxxi) was the first to express some doubts about it, and to suggest that it was the work of "possibly the merchant or vintner of that name [John Keymer], whom Ralegh many years before had licensed to retail wine in Cambridge," and who was the acknowledged author of "Observations made upon the Dutch fishery, about the year 1601." Oldys' opinion was adopted without comment by some later writers (*e. g.* Cayley and Watts), but it has been left to a German writer not only to adopt the suggestions of Oldys, but to go a good deal further in order to prove Keymer to be the author. A. Buff states (p. 189), "Ralph's authorship of the pamphlet in question rests on nothing but the authority of its first and anonymous publisher, who 35 years after Ralph's death printed it with the name of the renowned favourite on the title page, *giving no manner of account for his doing so.*" The writer relied for his information upon the reprint in the Oxford edition of Sir W. Raleigh's works (1829, VIII. 351-376); and apparently did not see or consult the editon published in 1653. Had he done so, he would have discovered a prefatory letter, "the printer to the Reader," which is wanting in all subsequent reprints (excepting that of 1720): from this the following extract is made :—

"It was in the beginning of K. James his time presented unto him, and being at that time laid aside in regard of more urgent affairs, it was (after divers years)

again presented; but though then wanting a good prosecutor, the Authour being taken away by death, it was carefully preserved by the hands of a very learned Gentleman, my singular good friend, untill this time: who . . . was very hardly perswaded to suffer the same to be exposed to publique view."

This answers a portion of A. Buff's statement marked in italics. He appears to have misquoted Oldys. It does not appear to have occurred to this writer that the main portion of the information contained in the work may have been supplied by Keymer to Sir Walter, leaving the latter to frame the work out of these materials; but it is far from my present purpose to enter into the details of this question. I am content to rely upon the testimony of Wood and contemporary writers, as to Sir Walter being the author. It appears under his name in all the editions of the *Remains* (excepting 1651 and 1657, and was first printed *in extenso* in 1653, at a time when all the works from his pen were tolerably well known. Moreover, he had written much about Holland; and even Oldys allows that the subject of the tract had been alluded to in one of Sir Walter's other works (*Discourse on Shipping*).

THE OLD CHURCH AND SCHOOL LIBRARIES OF LANCASHIRE.[1]

A PAPER on the subject of this volume was read by Mr. Chancellor Christie at our Liverpool Meeting in 1883 and appears in our *Transactions and Proceedings* for that year. In the interval which has since elapsed, Mr. Christie has written a more detailed account of the libraries there briefly described, and has been able to add to the list. The present volume contains an account of some *fifteen* church and *ten* school libraries. The libraries established by Dr. Bray have not been considered within the scope of the volume, and Mr. Christie suggests that the present associates of Dr. Bray would render the public a service by publishing a detailed account and history of the libraries established by their founder. Of many of the libraries here noticed no account can be found elsewhere. In some cases the libraries were almost or quite unknown. To register the existence of these libraries may, it is to be hoped, do something to stay that progress of dispersion and destruction which has resulted in the loss of many libraries, which can be shown to have been established in the sixteenth and seventeenth and the early part of the eighteenth centuries.

Mr. Christie tells us that he issued over 130 circular letters to the incumbents of all parishes in the county which existed before 1750, and answers were received from 88 incumbents; all the masters of grammar schools replied to the letters addressed to them. The libraries, of which an account is here given, are as follows:—Church Libraries: Manchester (bequests of Sir Henry Turton, Henry Bury, the Rev. John Prestwich and Humphrey Chetham) Bolton; Turton and Walmsley; Gorton (these three libraries; also due to bequests from Humphrey Chetham); Ashley; Cartmel; Coniston; Didsbury; Kirkham; Leigh; Leyland; Liverpool (St. Peter's); Rib-

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[1] *The Old Church and School Libraries of Lancashire.* By Richard Copley Christie, Chancellor of the Diocese of Manchester, President of the Chetham Society. Printed for the Chetham Society, 1885. 4to., pp. xv. 216.

chester; Rivington; Salford (Sacred Trinity). School Libraries: Bolton; Burnley; Bury; Hawkshead; Heskin; Kirkham; Lancaster; Leigh; Manchester; Rivington and Blackrod; Wigan; Great Crosby.

The history of the library at Manchester supplies a painful illustration of the gross carelessness, if we should not rather use a stronger word, with which the legal custodians of some of these libraries have discharged their trust. Bequests to the library were made by Sir Henry Turton in 1533, by Henry Bury in 1634, and by the Rev. John Prestwich, who died in 1679. By his will, Humphrey Chetham, who died in 1653, had left £200 to be spent in books, "most proper for the edification of the common people" in five parishes, £70 of which was allotted to Manchester, and Mr. Christie prints a list of the books purchased with the prices paid, taken from a schedule to the general discharge given to the executors. They numbered 202 volumes. Here they remained until about 1830, when they appear to have been sold by the churchwardens to a second-hand bookseller. It is indeed a most discreditable history and one which should be a warning to all who are interested in any of the other collections noticed in the present volume. With regard to some of them, indeed, we should be glad to learn that measures have been taken which might assure them against such a fate. Thus, the books of the church of Sacred Trinity, Salford, bequeathed by Humphrey Oldfield in 1690, were in 1876 presented to the Free Library, where they will be much safer than in the church. They numbered 72 volumes. From Chetham's bequest 108 volumes were purchased for Bolton Church. These were for some time lost sight of, but 56 of them were identified by Mr. John Cree, in the Bolton School Library, when making researches for the purposes of Mr. Christie's book. The libraries at Turton and Gorton are still in existence, and were described in a volume of the Chetham Society, published by Mr. Gilbert French in 1855. At Ashley there are about 250 volumes in the vicarage. At Cartmel the library consists of about 294 volumes. At Coniston there are about 100 volumes, but the small endowment has disappeared since 1811. At Didsbury and Kirkham there are a few volumes; at Leigh two volumes, and at Leyland four. The books at St. Peter's, Liverpool, in 1818, numbered 217. At Ribchester the library has disappeared within the last thirty years, save one volume. At Rivington there were four volumes still existing in 1856; finally, at Walton, there are four volumes.

The School Libraries appear to have been somewhat better cared for. The library at Bolton is preserved in an old oak-chest, an illustration of which, by the kind permission of Mr. Christie, accompanies the present number of the LIBRARY CHRONICLE. The library at Burnley is the most extensive of the School Libraries of Lancashire, and numbers 1040 volumes. It has been described by Mr. T. L. Ward, the head master, in a pamphlet published in 1881, and includes a few MSS. The Bury Library was established by Henry Bury, the founder of the school, and some three or four hundred volumes remain. The Hawkshead school appears to have several hundred volumes, which have an interesting history. At Heskin all that remains of the library is forty-eight volumes. At Kirkham there are about 300 volumes. The library at Lancaster appears to have contained 300 volumes, but they have disappeared. The Leigh School has about 120 volumes, which have been catalogued by Mr. J. E. Bailey. Mr. Christie has not traced the history of the Manchester Grammar School Library since 1856, when it consisted of about 600 volumes; we believe it now numbers about 5000 volumes, the accessions being of modern books. That at Wigan consists of

about 200 volumes; the Rivington and Blackrod Library, and that at Great Crosby, have disappeared.

Perhaps the most interesting part of the volume, and that which specially gives it a more than local interest, consists of the numerous biographical and bibliographical notes with which the compiler has enriched it. These not only supply much that is new but correct numerous errors in the ordinary books of biographical and bibliographical reference. It is unnecessary to say that the book has been prepared with the pains and accuracy that we are accustomed to expect from Mr. Chancellor Christie, and that it is a valuable contribution, not only to the history of libraries, but the history of literature.

The Library Chronicle.

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is issued on the 15th of the month, and communications, books for review, etc., intended for the forthcoming number should be addressed, not later than the 10th of the month, to the Hon. Editor,* ERNEST C. THOMAS, *care of Messrs. J. Davy & Sons, 137, Long Acre, W.C.*

The attention of librarians and library committees, of publishers and booksellers, is called to the advantages of the CHRONICLE (*which represents at least 250 libraries*) *as an advertising medium. Advertisements of Library Vacancies, and of Books Wanted, or Duplicates for Sale or Exchange by Libraries are inserted at low rates.*

Members of the Library Association whose subscription for the current year has been paid are entitled to receive the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association cannot be responsible for the views expressed by the contributors to the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association.

JANUARY MONTHLY MEETING.

THE January Monthly Meeting was held at Gray's Inn Library on Friday, January 8th, at 7.30 p.m., Mr. J. Potter Briscoe in the chair.

The Treasurer (Mr. Robert Harrison) read a Paper on "County Bibliography."

After a discussion, a vote of thanks was passed to the writer of the Paper.

The meeting then adjourned.

FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING.

The February Monthly Meeting was held at Gray's Inn Library on Friday, February 6th, at 7.30 p.m., The Treasurer (Mr. Robert Harrison) in the chair.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. Ernest C. Thomas) opened a Discussion on "The Best Hundred Books."

After the discussion a vote of thanks was passed to the opener.

The meeting then adjourned.

Library Notes and News.

HOME.

BEBINGTON.—We regret to learn of the death of Mr. Joseph Mayer, F.S.A., which took place at his residence, Bebington, on January 19th. His magnificent collection of antiquities, specially rich in Anglo-Saxon objects, ivories, and Wedgwood ware is well known. In 1867 this collection was presented to Liverpool, and is now under the roof of the free library buildings in that city. About 25 years ago, he took up his abode in the village of Bebington, in Cheshire, where in a short time he undertook the expense of establishing a small free library. Ten years later he built and equipped a handsome library building, and within recent years, added lecture hall and concert room, together with a public park.

BUXTON.—The Public Libraries Acts were adopted at Buxton on February 11th, at a crowded meeting of ratepayers. It was stated that the annual sum to be raised by the penny rate would be £195.

CAMBRIDGE.—Just as we are going to press we hear the melancholy news of the death of Mr. Henry Bradshaw, the University Librarian, who was found dead in his chair on the morning of February 11th. The event has caused a painful shock to a wide circle of friends and admirers, but by none will it be more keenly felt than by very many of our members to whom he was personally known, and who will be reminded of the scene in the Hall of King's College at the close of our Cambridge meeting.

DEPTFORD.—We understand that Deptford is about to be polled on the question of adopting the Libraries Acts.

EALING.—The members of the Local Board and of the Library Committee have had a good deal of discussion as to a proposal to authorise the Committee to build new library premises on a plot of land which has been acquired on exceedingly favourable terms, on the condition that it was to be used for Baths and a Library or other public buildings. The question at issue seems to be whether the Committee should be allowed to erect a library building on their own plan, or whether the Board should erect public buildings, a part of which should be devoted to library purposes. At a meeting of the Board on January 19th, after a very lengthy debate the Board deferred the final decision upon the plans, but undertook to "use their best endeavours to erect the Free Library building before December 31st, 1887"—a result which is considered fairly satisfactory.

LONDON: THE GLADSTONE LIBRARY.—The National Liberal Club promises to be the home of a library which will not only be worthy of the great name it bears, but will be of no small advantage to Liberals, both in London and in the country, as a literary centre where the best information on all political and historical subjects can be obtained, and whence it can be widely diffused. The idea of founding "the Gladstone Library" was contemporaneous with that of founding the Club, and the two schemes took root side by side. It was intended that the library should be the testimony of individual Liberals to Mr. Gladstone's great literary ability, and therefore that the sources from which it was to be brought together and maintained should be purely voluntary. In the new Club house Mr. Waterhouse will provide a room for the library about 100 feet by 40, and this fine apartment will immediately face the Hôtel Métropole. The work of collecting the books has been for some time in progress, and Mr. Borlase, M.P., who has personally undertaken the superintendence of the work, and who has also been a munificent donor to the library, has completed a catalogue of the works already received up to date. These comprise between six and seven thousand volumes, and include the most valuable portion of the extensive library of an old friend of Mr. Gladstone's college days. Valuable presents have been made by the members of the club and others, amongst whom we may mention Lord Northbrook, Professor Thorold Rogers, M.P., Mr. Sydney Kennedy, Mr. Borlase, M.P., and Mr. Henry Brown. Those engaged in the task of collecting are naturally anxious that the work should progress as rapidly as possible, as even after they are received considerable time may be necessary for the purpose of cataloguing, repairing, binding, &c., before the books will be ready for the shelves. For the latter work—namely, that of binding magazines and pamphlets, of which it is proposed to make a large collection—a small fund will be required, in aid of which any contributions will be most acceptable. In order to avoid duplicates, it is desirable that any intending donor of books to the library should previously communicate their titles, with the edition and date, to the Hon. Secretary of the Committee of the Gladstone Library, National Liberal Club, Trafalgar Square.

LONDON: MESSRS. BRABY AND CO'S. LIBRARY.—The Queen has presented to this library "Leaves from the Journal of our life in the Highlands," and "More leaves from the Journal of a life in the Highlands," both signed by Her Majesty.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—The Free Library and Reading-room were opened by Lady John Manners on Jan. 15th. The Acts were adopted last year, and a fund of nearly £1200 was raised by subscriptions. The chair was taken by Mr. Henry Deane, and Lady John Manners delivered an address.

MANCHESTER.—In the *Manchester Guardian* of February 17th, is announced the death, on the previous day, of our member, Mr. Richard Hanby, governor of Chetham's Hospital and Library, Manchester. Mr. Hanby was born at Rotherham in January, 1827. He was appointed, in 1863, assistant to the late Mr. Thomas Jones, B.A., librarian of the Chetham Library, and in 1873 was promoted to the position of house governor. On the death of Mr. Jones, in 1875, the charge of the library was assumed by the late Mr. James Crossley, but Mr. Hanby had all the work to do. His heart was ever in his duties, which he performed in a very exemplary manner. He was loved by all who knew him, and the feoffees of Chetham's Hospital will find it hard to fill his place.

A large mass of the correspondence of the late Mr. James Crossley, F.S.A., a member of the Association, has recently been given to the Manchester Free Library by another of our members, whose name, however, is not published.

OLDBURY.—A meeting was held on Jan. 16th to consider the desirability of adopting the Libraries Acts, and a committee was appointed to make arrangements to take the opinion of the ratepayers.

OLDHAM.—A course of free lectures has been started in connection with the Oldham Free Library. Mr. W. E. A. Axon delivered the opening lecture on Saturday, February 6, his subject being "Books and Reading."

The North Moor Library, which has

been open for some years as a reference library and reading-room, is being converted into a lending library. The Oldham Public Free Libraries consist now of, 1. The Reference Library (with Art Gallery and Museum) in Union Street. 2. The North Moor Branch Library and Reading Room.

ROCHDALE. — The Rochdale Town Council decided recently, by a majority of one, to open the Free Library on Sundays, and it accordingly was thrown open for the first time on Sunday, February 14.

WIDNES.—At a meeting of ratepayers held on December 29th, the chairman of the Local Board presiding, to consider the question of adopting the Libraries' Acts, Mr. Thomas Snape moved a resolution in favour of that course. There appears to have been no opposition, and the motion was carried.

WIGAN.—The Town Council of Wigan have made a special grant to the Library Committee for the purpose of printing the Reference Library Catalogue. The catalogue will be issued in parts, and its total cost is estimated at about £600. There seems to have been some opposition to the arrangement. During the discussion one gentleman was fearful the Committee were making a "toy" of the library; that times were bad, and the Corporation should not provide for "luxuries before necessaries." The opposition nevertheless failed, and the grant was confirmed by a considerable majority.

FOREIGN.

BERLIN.—It is reported that the vacant librarianship of the Royal Library is to be bestowed upon Dr. Aug. Wilmanns, of Göttingen, who has been provisionally in charge of the library.

NEW YORK.—A resolution was carried at a meeting of the aldermen, on December 8th, requesting the legislature "to incorporate, on the most liberal and well-considered basis, a Free Public Library, which shall for ever stand as a monument of the homage paid by the people to self-culture, and which shall fittingly supplement our system of public education, constituting with our public schools and colleges, the museums of art and of science, a university worthy of the City of New York."

WASHINGTON.—The President, in his message to Congress, has referred to the need for increased accommodation for the Library of Congress. It appears that for 400,000 out of the 700,000 items of the collection there is at present no shelf-room.

Our members will regret to hear of the death of Mr. Edward Edwards, which took place at Niton, Isle of Wight, on the 7th of February. Mr. Edwards was one of our honorary members, and had well earned this distinction, which has not yet been conferred on any other Englishman, by a long career spent in library and bibliographical work.

We have received the first numbers of two local magazines, one *The Nottingham Magazine*, the other *The Northgate End Chapel Magazine* (Halifax). They call for mention here because they both devote space to library matters. The former proposes to give each month a list of accessions to the Free Library; and the latter contains "Library Notes" on sources of information on topics of the day, indicating the local libraries in which the books mentioned may be found.

The *Richmond and Twickenham Times* of Jan. 30th, in a short leader suggests that "now that the free libraries of Richmond, Twickenham and Kingston have emerged from a state of infancy and rejoice in a sturdy and progressive youth, a very useful work might be found for two or three well-read and genial gentlemen who might be willing to spend a few hours a week thereon. Any observant visitor to the libraries named must have come to the conclusion that every evening there are a large number of readers—youths and young men more particularly—who possess a valuable taste for reading, but are very much at a loss where to put their hand upon what they want. To some extent the catalogue will aid them, and, in such cases, when they have time, librarians are always glad to be of service. But the evening is exactly the time when they are most occupied with more imperative work. Under such circumstances it would certainly be a great relief to them, and a valuable aid to deserving young men seeking a little literary guidance, if officials sometimes enjoyed the privilege of referring such inquirers to some well-informed gentleman full of kindly tact and sympathy with youth, who would tell them of the best sources of information on the subject in which they are specially interested."

Library Catalogues and Reports.

Corporation of Birmingham. Free Libraries Reference Department. Catalogue of Books. Letter C only. Birmingham, 1885. 4to, pp. 337-430.

This important Catalogue is making progress. The present instalment represents over 9000 book and pamphlets, and includes Cambridge (130), Canada (120), Ceramics (70), Cervantes (360), Chaucer (110), Chemistry (790), Christ, Christianity and Church (380), Classics (620), Cobbett (170), Coins (90), Collier, J. P. (110), Costume (50), Coventry (100), and Cromwell (70).

Manchester Public Free Libraries. Catalogue of the Hulme Branch Lending Library. Fourth Edition. Manchester, 1885. Large 8vo, pp. viii, 196, cl. bk.

The Catalogue of one of the busiest and most popular of the Manchester Branches, representing 18,192 volumes. It is of course on the Index System first adopted at Manchester eighteen years ago. It is in double column.

A Catalogue of Books in the Tavistock Library. Instituted in the year 1799. Tavistock, 1885. Small 8vo, pp. viii. 112.

A neatly printed class Catalogue, with press-marks. It possesses, of course, the disadvantages of the class system. Thus, all Bacon's works are under "Philosophy," while Gladstone's Juventus Mundi is under "Poetry, Drama and the Classics." The books are not dated, and there are rather too many misprints.

The Cardiff Free Library, Museum, and Science and Art Schools. Twenty-third Annual Report, 1884. Cardiff, 1885. 8vo, pp. 24.

Land has been secured for extension of present buildings. Special attention was given to the section containing works on Engineering. A collection of Works of Art was offered upon condition that the Museum and Art Gallery should be opened during three hours on Sundays, but the offer was declined. The chief librarian (Mr. Ballinger) succeeded to the Honorary Secretaryship, consequent upon the appointment of Mr. Thorp to the Town Clerkship of Bury. The Penny Rate was found inadequate to maintain the departments efficiently. The issues in the Lending Library were 81103 vols. against 64222 in the previous year. There were 2106 borrowers enrolled during the year. 2390 vols. were added to the Lending Library, bringing up the stock to 10272 vols. A second Supplementary Catalogue was issued. The Juvenile Literature is to be collected, and a separate Catalogue issued at a penny. The issues in the Reference Library were 10269 vols., an increase of 3978 vols. over the preceding year. A catalogue will shortly be issued. The stock is now 8030, of which 791 were added during the year. The News-room contains 134 newspapers and magazines, and the Ladies' Reading-room, 30. The School of Art had 164 students, and the School of Science 309. 2300 specimens were added to the Museum during the year, and the number of visitors was 66669. The total receipts were £2448 7s. 5½d., and there was a balance in hand of £371 13s. 7d.

Middlesbrough. Annual Report of the Free Library Committee. Nov. 9, 1885, Middlesbrough. 8vo, pp. 14.

This is the Report of thirteen months. During the twelve months ending Sept. 30, 91861 vols. were issued from the Lending Library, being an increase of 22250 over the previous twelve months. 966 vols. were purchased, and £382 15s. 10d. was expended in their purchase and in binding. There are now 12810 vols. in the Library. The issues for fourteen years one month were 778313 vols. More funds are needed for the Museum. There was expended £1053 18s., leaving a balance against the Committee of £10 9s.

Borough of Walsall. The Twenty-seventh Annual Report of the Free Library Committee, 1884-5. Walsall, 1885. 8vo, pp. 19.

The stock of books in the Reference Library was considerably augmented through gifts, and consequently the library was more largely attended than in the previous year. £60 were expended in bookcases for these accessions. The number of volumes reported to be in the library was 12449, and the annual issues were 75,037. For fines and catalogues £34 3s. 7d. was received. Six books were lost during the year.

Record of Bibliography and Library Literature.

Catalogue of the printed books in the Library of James Henry Johnson, F.G.S., of Southport and Silverdale, Lancashire, compiled by Henry Tennyson Folkard, Librarian. 4to. *Chiswick Press*, 1885.

This Catalogue is a standing proof of what a busy man may do in the intervals of his business, in the way of collecting books. It is a handsome volume, issued in the best style of the Chiswick Press, but only a few copies for private circulation have been printed. Mr. Johnson, a wealthy coal-owner in the North, has found time to make selections of books in the shops of the various dealers of London, Liverpool, Manchester and other places. Mr. Folkard deserves great credit for the skill with which he has arranged the books (alphabetically) and the clearness with which he has described them. The collection is of a mixed character, exhibiting a quaint contrast of the two extremes of the bibliographical scale—specimens of early printing presses, and examples of the latest work of Cruikshank, Hablot Browne and others, in the books illustrated by them. Of bibles there are forty-six entries in Latin, English, French, Italian, German, Dutch and Welsh, ranging from 1476 to 1865. The following MS. note is quoted from a "Biblia Sacra Latina," printed by Anton Koberger at Nuremberg, 1477, "Thys ye first Letter of the craft gave my polychronicon wyth certaen wrytins of Ranulf Higden to the Holy Fadyr Godfry a Mayence, 1482. William Caxton." As the note has every appearance of being genuine it is fairly presumed that the volume once belonged to Caxton. The list of New Testaments includes twenty-three in various languages, beginning with Beza's edition in Latin and ending with a Welsh version. The copy of Tindale's English Testament 1536, called the blank edition, has a note in the cover by Mr. Francis Fry, which explains the designation as arising from a stone in the woodcut under Paul's foot, which is left untouched by the graver. Of Caxton's press there is no original example, but two or three reproductions. There is a Salisbury missal printed by Pynson in 1512, and some specimens of Wynkyn de Worde. The collection of Lancashire topography is nearly complete, though we are surprised not to find a set of the Chetham Society's publications. There are twenty-three entries of different editions of Tim Bobbin's Works in the Lancashire dialect. Dibdin, the writer of "Bibliomania" and other bibliographical and typographical works, is well represented. Coming down to later and lighter writers such as Dickens, Lever and others, it is to be presumed that they stand on Mr. Johnson's shelves partly in virtue of their graphic illustrations, for the Cataloguer has taken care to place the names of Hablot Browne, Cruikshank and Seymour in their place in the alphabet, with a reference to the books in which their illustrations are to be found. George Cruikshank's name is followed by forty-three such references in addition to eighteen entries in which he figures as author. Both Isaac and Robert Cruikshank also find a place in this Catalogue. The collection of the early editions of the works of Charles Dickens, thirty-two in number, is nearly, if not quite complete. Of Lever's works there are twelve entries; of Bulwer-Lytton's only nine. It is pleasant to see the "Transactions of the Library Association of the United Kingdom," for six years, including the Preliminary Meeting of 1877, occupy nearly a page of this Catalogue of a private collector. May others emulate his taste and come and join us! R. H.

Bibliothèque Nationale. Rapport sur les Collections du Departement des imprimés, par Léopold Delisle. Paris: Champion, 1885. 8vo, pp. 39.

Of this extremely valuable and interesting Report, now reprinted from the Bulletin dès Bibliothèques, we gave a brief summary in our last number and hope to give a still fuller account in a future number.

Ministero della Publica Istruzione. Regolamento per le Biblioteche pubbliche governative. Approvato con regio Decreto 3464 del 28 Ottobre, 1885. Roma: Bencini, 1885. 8vo, pp. 113.

This is an exceedingly important publication, being a Codification of the regulations relating to the Italian State Libraries. These regulations are 191 in number, and are followed by a great number of models showing the various books and registers directed to be kept and the forms to be used. It deserves a fuller notice.

On January 9, in distributing the prizes of the Working Men's College, Sir John Lubbock delivered an address on "The Pleasure of Reading," which is printed in the February number of the *Contemporary Review*.

With the January number of the *Western Antiquary* is issued, as a supplement, the first instalment of "The Bibliography of Sir Walter Ralegh, with Notes," by Dr. T. N. Brushfield, which promises to be exceedingly full and useful.

The December number of the *Library Journal* contains articles on "A New Method on Size-Notation, by J. Schwartz, and on "Free Libraries and Unclean Books" [i. e., *morally* unclean], by F. B. Perkins. The January number contains, with several other articles, an address on "Books and the Public Library," delivered by Mr. J. R. Lowell at the opening of the new Public Library building at Chelsea, Mass.

The January number of the *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* contains the first instalment of what promises to be an exceedingly full and valuable "Verzeichniss der Handscriften-Kataloge der deutschen Bibliotheken," by Dr. August Blau. The libraries are treated alphabetically, and the present instalment runs from "Aachen" to "Fulda."

The December number of the *Library Bulletin of Cornell University*, besides the annotated list of additions, contains some "Reference Notes on Journalism."

The fourth number, completing the first volume of the American *Coöperative Index to Periodicals* has been issued, and deserves support. A little additional trouble would greatly increase the value of the Index. There are no notes, for instance, to indicate the nature of the articles indexed. In the case of fiction and poetry, at least, it would be a great assistance if the letters F. and P. respectively were added after the entry. We notice that the *Library Chronicle* is not one of the periodicals indexed. The total number of periodicals included in the Index is 84, of which 33 are British.

"An Historical Atlas . . .," by Robert H. Labberton, published by Macmillan & Co., 1885, contains what purports to be "a brief but carefully-chosen general reference to standard works, and the most prominent magazine articles." These book-lists are incorporated with the table of contents; more discrimination might be shown in the selection of works recommended. Thus Grant Allen's *Anglo-Saxon Britain* is included, while Freeman's *Old English History*, as well as Sharon Turner's *History of the Anglo-Saxons*, are not mentioned. A better *Life of Cicero* than that by Anthony Trollope, even from a geographical point of view, might have been included. More than half the books named are not to be found in the English publishers' catalogues, and some items are the titles of chapters of books rather than of separate treatises, though this fact is not indicated. Possibly in America these chapters may have been printed and published separately and so count for individual works, but in a book "designed chiefly for the use of those who know no language but English," and published by an English firm, there should have been some indication of the country of publication for the guidance of the librarian or student who may desire to consult this "bibliography." With all its defects, however, the list may be profitably consulted by the librarian who wishes to acquire good works on historical geography.

Notes and Queries.

Portuguese Incunabula.

The interesting note of R. G. in the December number of the "Chronicle" calls attention to the very small number of *incunabula* printed in Portugal, and to the singular fact that the University of Lisbon has only just been able to complete its hitherto imperfect set of the only Lusitanian *incunabulum* in its possession, a Portuguese translation of Ludolphus' *Vita Christi*. I am able to add two to the ten enumerated by Panzer as printed at Lisbon before 1500 and — which adds to their interest — these are not Hebrew, but Portuguese books, and have, I think, escaped the notice of Bibliographers. The following are their titles:—*Estoria de muy nobre Vespesiano emperador de Roma:* (at the end) *Emprimida . . . em a muy nobre e sempre leal çidade de Lixboa per Valentino de moravia . . .* 1496, and *Coplas fechas por el muy illustre Señor infante dõ Pedro de portugal*, without place or date. I am indebted for the knowledge of these

two, to a very uncommon book, a copy of which is in my possession. It seems quite unknown to librarians and bibliographers, but from its nature and contents it deserves to be described in the *Library Chronicle*. It is a report made by the Principal Librarian of the National Library of Lisbon to the Secretary of State on the 1st of January, 1844, and is entitled, *Relatorio a'cerca da Bibliotheca Nacional de Lisboa, e mais estabelecimentos annexos, dirigido exmº sr. ministro e secretario d'estado dos negocios do Reino. No.* 1 *de Janeiro de* 1844 *por José Feliciano de Castilho Barreto e Noronha, Bibliothecuriomór da Bibliotheca Nacional de Lisboa.* Lisboa, 1844-45, 4 vol. sm. 4to. The first volume contains the report on the state of the library, including a notice of some of the rarer volumes. The second (340 pp.) is a catalogue of the *incunabula* in the library, in which, on pages 259 and 305, will be found the two books above referred to, and on pages 257 and 258, a long description of the edition of Ludolph of Saxony referred to in R. G.'s note, a complete copy of which appears to be in the National Library. The third volume contains a catalogue of the several editions of the Holy Scriptures in the Library to the number of 915; and the fourth volume describes the rarer books in the library, as well as gives other details concerning its condition. The catalogue of the *incunabula* (besides including one book given by Panzer as printed at Leiria), adds a Latin Breviary printed at Braga in 1494 to Panzer's list of those printed in Portugal. This Breviary however is known to bibliographers, and is cited both by Hain and Brunet.—R. C. Christie.

Correspondence.

Boston, January 29th, 1886.

I am in hopes you will kindly assist me in finding in what London or County Library I can find the "Pedigree of the Family of French," by Nathaniel Bogle French, folio, 1866. I wrote George W. Marshall, Esq., and he advised me to ask in "*Notes and Queries*," but I have had no reply. I am interested to discover this volume, as I am making some notes on the Frenches; one article is to come out in "*The Antiquary*" of this year. I have a pamphlet now in the press on the Williamses and when published I shall take pleasure in sending you a copy.

A. D. Weld French,
P. O. Box No. 1622, *Boston, Massachusetts.*

Cambridge, *Jan.* 29, 1886.

Sir,—You have done me the honour of noticing my library scheme in your journal, but you have accompanied that notice with an observation of your own calculated to give the impression that the scheme is architecturally impracticable. You say: "It remains to be seen whether a bold architect can be found to put it into practice." Perhaps you will allow me to explain that the *first* point I ascertained from an experienced architect was the feasibility of the scheme. Next, let me say that Mr. W. Fawcett, M.A., a well-known architect of Cambridge, under my direction gave the scheme the architectural expression it has on the printed paper you refer to. Thirdly, I may add that Mr. Waterhouse has examined it very carefully in every particular, and under date of Jan. 14th writes to me: "In conclusion, I have thought your scheme over very carefully, and I believe it to be thoroughly practical, as well as very ingenious; and for the accommodation it offers, very inexpensive."

May I trust to your courtesy, that you will find space for these lines in the next issue of the *Library Chronicle?*

Yours obediently,
Eiríkr Magnússon.

[Note.—We did not mean that the scheme was impracticable, but that architects might hesitate to adopt a plan which postulates a building destined to be always unfinished and unfinishable.—Ed.]

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The Library Chronicle.

IN MEMORIAM: HENRY BRADSHAW.

By C. E. Grant.

THE death of Henry Bradshaw leaves a void which cannot easily be filled. Born in 1831, he had scarcely passed the period of middle life, and might well have looked forward to years of useful labour, when his career was cut short with such terrible suddenness.

This is not the place to dwell at length on the loss which his personal friends have sustained. Many men, perhaps, have had a wider circle of acquaintance; but few have had a larger number of real friends, and few have given a friendship so highly valued by those who had the privilege of sharing it. By nature somewhat shy and retiring, Mr. Bradshaw may have seemed to some men difficult to know. But beneath his quiet manner lay a force of character which soon made itself felt by those who came within its influence. Himself grateful for the sympathy of others, he was ever ready to extend his sympathy to them. Nor was his affection limited by any distinctions of age or class. The young undergraduate fresh from school, the junior fellow just entering upon the real business of life, the foreigner who had made his home in Cambridge, the assistant in the University Library, the college servant, all equally with his own contemporaries, found in him warm-hearted friendship, came to him for counsel, and rarely left him without feeling that they had received real sympathy and assistance. His large-minded charity always made him bring into prominence the best side of a man's character. Though he shrank from giving reproof, which always cost him a painful effort, he knew how to administer chastisement with telling effect when he felt it to be necessary, and nothing was more certain to rouse him than an ill-natured or sarcastic remark, a "viper" as he would call it, uttered in his presence. "People abuse so-and-so," he would say, "instead of helping him, because they will not see that the man is all the time trying to do really good work." And this spirit of sound work, which was an axiom in his own life, he strove perpetually to instil into others. Many a student can recall how, at the beginning of his career, a few words spoken in season, a few helpful suggestions, and above all a splendid example have given him a lesson to last a life-time.

But it is rather to the scholar and librarian than to the wise counsellor or the generous helper that these pages should be devoted.

Henry Bradshaw was born on the second of February 1831, in London, and after a preliminary training at East Sheen School he was entered at Eton as an "Oppidan." Somewhat later he became a member of the foundation or "Colleger," when the opening of additional buildings rendered life in College less rough than it had been under the old system. As a boy he had early developed, or perhaps inherited, a taste for books, and possessed a considerable library. He also acquired a practical knowledge of the art of printing, which proved of great service to him in after life. At one time he possessed a small press of his own, besides spending a portion of his leisure in a printer's office near his home. Boys are, as a rule, intolerant of tastes which differ from those of the majority, and he was not a popular boy, though he was never bullied. His comrades were content to leave him alone, misunderstood and unappreciated. At Cambridge, where he entered early in 1850, he was in more congenial surroundings. His scholarship at King's, which in those days led to a Fellowship without further examination, left him free to follow his own inclinations. A number of friends, made at that time, show that he soon began to make himself felt. Dr. Westcott, Regius Professor of Divinity, Dr. Hort, Hulsean Professor, the present Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Luard, the Registrar of the University, were all gathered round his grave. Others, as the present Bishop of Durham and Sir Arthur Gordon, were not less intimate with him. In 1854 he took his degree in the Classical Tripos, being placed in the second class. A letter from his private tutor after the publication of the list proves, that in the opinion of one well able to judge, his place was no fair criterion of his powers. For a short time he left Cambridge to take a place under his friend George Williams at St. Columba's College, near Dublin. But he had little taste for schoolmaster's work, and in little more than a year he returned to Cambridge, and commenced what proved to be the work of his life. In March, 1857, the Syndics of the University Library "had much satisfaction in informing the Senate that they had secured the services of Mr. Bradshaw as successor to the late Principal Library Assistant." The appointment was admittedly an experiment, as it was the first time that the post had been held by a member of the University. For some reason or other it was not altogether a success. Possibly the demands of routine duties upon the time of one of the most responsible officers on the staff at that date were irksome to a man who felt that he could do better work if he had the opportunity. Anyhow, he resigned the place in December 1858, but it was soon found that his services were too valuable to be lost. At that time the printed catalogue of the manuscripts was in progress, and there was no one on the staff of the library who knew anything about the manuscripts. As Mr. Bradshaw remarks with a touch of bitterness in his paper on the Discovery of the Waldensian MSS.:

"Ever since the death of William Moore (in 1659), all the librarians and their assistants have uniformly, though unaccountably, declined to make themselves in any way acquainted with the manuscripts under their charge. So . . . the laborious compilers of the printed catalogue were employed . . . as being supposed to know a good deal of the *subjects* of the works existing in MS., but a knowledge of the *history* of the individual volumes was not to be expected from them."

In these circumstances it is no matter of surprise to find the syndicate of opinion that a person who was able to tell the compilers of the catalogue something of the his-

tory of the MSS. would render valuable assistance. Accordingly in June, 1859, they report that "The condition of the manuscripts in the library is by no means satisfactory," and recommend that "Mr. Bradshaw be appointed to superintend the rearrangement of the manuscripts and the rebinding of some of the volumes." The stipend attached to the appointment was not a large one (only £20 a year), but Mr. Bradshaw wanted permission to work in the way he liked best; and in after years he looked back with gratitude to the action of the authorities at this time. What he wanted was a position which gave him a right to work in the library unhampered by conditions. He devoted himself heartily to the congenial task which was set before him, and the next eight years were, perhaps, in some respects the happiest period of his life. The mass of work accomplished was enormous. The manuscripts were carefully examined and re-arranged; the class of "adversaria"—printed books with manuscript notes—was largely increased, but what was almost more important, was the formation of the class of select printed books. The whole of the books, which constituted the library of the University in 1715, had been removed at that time to make room for George I's valuable gift of Bishop Moore's Library. The old library was roughly stowed away on common shelving, which lined the walls above the principal bookcases, dark and almost inaccessible. Here Mr. Bradshaw spent hours standing on the top of a long ladder and patiently taking down and examining, one by one, all the volumes within reach, rescuing the treasures which still remained after the neglect and depredations of nearly 150 years, and removing them into the new select class. His work was not without recognition. His first appointment had been for a period of two years, and when it was renewed in 1861, his stipend was raised to £150 a year, which two years later was increased to £200, a large sum in those days, when the Principal Librarian only received two hundred guineas. One or two short extracts from the Syndicate Reports may serve to show the gradual growth of appreciation for his services.

May, 1861, "The work in which Mr. Bradshaw has been engaged has been carried on in a highly satisfactory manner. The Syndics are of opinion that it would be advantageous to the interests of the library, if his services were continued."

May, 1863, "We cannot pass over unnoticed the very important assistance which Mr. Bradshaw has afforded, not only to members of the University, but also to strangers from a distance. We believe that the presence, in the library, of an officer deeply versed in so important a department of bibliography, not commonly studied (manuscripts and early printed books), reflects credit on the University. We should feel it to be a serious misfortune that the University Library should be deprived of the advantage of Mr. Bradshaw's knowledge and experience."

But it must not be thought that his work at this time was confined within the limits of the University Library. The various College Libraries at Cambridge became scarcely less familiar to him, while occasional expeditions to London, Oxford, and elsewhere, gave him a knowledge of other important libraries, the accuracy and extent of which often astonished their custodians when he revisited them in after years. His vacations were employed in similar manner in exploring the continental libraries. In all these expeditions he invariably took notes of any important facts which he observed; and a long series of his note-books containing now a description of a manuscript or early printed book, now a note of a device on an old binding, or the tracing of a woodcut initial, now a correction of some printed description, or a note of slight variations in different copies of the same book, will form a valuable mine

of research for students in the same fields of learning. He possessed a marvellous instinct for the sort of discoveries which he wanted to make. A few minutes in an old and neglected library would often enable him to lay his hand at one time on a lost edition of some once popular book, at another on a fragment of Caxton's printing or a few leaves of printer's or binder's waste from an unknown edition of the Breviary, which had lain concealed in an old sixteenth century binding.

The year 1867 marks an important epoch in Mr. Bradshaw's career. Early in that year Mr. Mayor of St. John's College, the eminent scholar and lover of books who now holds the Professorship of Latin in the University, resigned the post of librarian, and on March 8 Mr. Bradshaw was unanimously elected to the vacant office. So evident, so universally acknowledged, was his fitness for the post, that no other candidate ventured to put himself into the field. Mr. Bradshaw threw himself at once, with all his energies, into the duties of his new position. How fully he realised what these duties were, is best seen from his own definition of a librarian given in his address to the Library Association at Cambridge :—

"A *Librarian* is one who earns his living by attending to the wants of those for whose use the library under his charge exists; his primary duty being, in the widest possible sense of the phrase, to save the time of those who seek his services."

Few men have set before themselves so noble, so unselfish an ideal; few have so earnestly striven to attain to it. Henceforward the interests of the library and of those who used it occupied the first place in his thoughts. His own work was immediately put into the background. How far he sacrificed the prospect of a great reputation, how much learning the world has lost, a few precious fragments suffice to show. But he laboured not for himself, but for others.

Mr. Bradshaw's administration of the library was marked rather by gradual development than by striking changes. He felt strongly the importance of continuity in the history and traditions of a great institution, and he shrank from publicity. Hence it was that he never pressed the claims of his department upon the University. He preferred to let people feel for themselves the necessity of a change rather than induce them to accept it by the weight of his authority. And so, when room after room was added to the library, the demand for additional space had always outrun the supply, and the pressure for more accommodation remained as urgent as before. Books lay uncatalogued in the store rooms perhaps for years, not because the staff were not doing their work, but because no place could be found on the shelves. Hence occasionally a certain amount of grumbling took place. Mr. Bradshaw himself was not unconscious of the fact that he did not possess all the qualities required for the head of an important library. At times, when a fit of depression came over him, he would even talk of resigning his place. Possibly he always looked back with a feeling of regret to the work which he had been compelled in great measure to lay aside. But his sense of duty was too strong to allow him for a moment to consider his own personal inclinations. How admirable was the system which was introduced or perfected by him, is shewn by his *Account of the Organisation of the Cambridge University Library*, which was read to the Library Association at the Cambridge Meeting and printed as an Appendix to the Proceedings of that Meeting. This system worked so quietly, that many members of the University, even amongst those who were supposed to be conversant with the details of the management of the library, expressed the greatest surprise to learn that there was any system at all.

The great work of the printed slip catalogue[1] made steady progress, though librarians will not be surprised to learn that no answer was ever given to the question, "When will it be completed?" Among the last improvements introduced by Mr. Bradshaw was the reduction of the width of the slips so as to get three columns on a page instead of two, and the publication of the weekly *Bulletin*, which, at a very moderate cost, places readers in possession of the titles of all the new books added to the library in the same week in which they are placed on the shelves.[2] Of the special Catalogues, those of the *manuscripts* and *adversaria* were completed before Mr. Bradshaw became librarian. But Mr. Bendall, in his *Catalogue of the Buddhist Sanskrit Manuscripts*, and Dr. Schiller-Szinessy in his, as yet, incomplete *Catalogue of the Hebrew Manuscripts*, were largely indebted to the inspiration and assistance afforded them by him. The catalogues which Mr. Bradshaw intended to prepare of the *Fifteenth Century Books*, and of the *Select Books*, exist only in rough hand-lists of the books as they stand on the shelves, and the task of giving to the world a knowledge of these treasures of the University Library has been left to another generation.

But, however excellent may be the system which was in force under Mr. Bradshaw's superintendence, his chief merits as a librarian did not lie in the organisation of the work of the library. Of its defects no man was more conscious than himself. Having set before himself a very high standard of what good work ought to be, he was unwilling to allow anything inferior to pass muster. Hence much valuable time was spent in the perfecting of comparatively unimportant details of departmental administration, while the general superintendence of the whole suffered in consequence. But Mr. Bradshaw's reputation as a librarian rests not upon his administrative powers, but upon his accurate knowledge of the contents of the library and upon the assistance which he gave to students in all departments of learning. Probably it will be admitted that at any rate in a University library the points in which Mr. Bradshaw was strongest are of greater importance than those in which he was comparatively weak. And where he was strong, he was a giant. The mention of his name in the prefaces of numerous works is, in his case, no empty compliment of courtesy to the custodian of rare books freely placed at the disposal of students. A host of workers in many different fields of learning readily acknowledge how deeply they are indebted to him for assistance. Where he professed ignorance, he always sought to obtain information from those visitors to the library who had made any particular subject their own. Yet even these often felt that they had received more than they had been able to give. One or two instances may suffice out of a number. Mr. Bradshaw was no Orientalist; yet he was able to draw the attention of Professor Robertson Smith to a mark which appeared to him to be peculiar to Persian and Arabic manuscripts written in India, and which had hitherto escaped notice. Professor Rhys Davids expressed his astonishment at the knowledge which Mr. Bradshaw possessed of the Pâli manuscripts in the library, and said that without his assistance he could not have drawn up the list which he has printed in the *Journal of the Pâli Text Society*. In a widely different department of learning the testimony of no less a scholar than Professor Mommsen bears evidence to the

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[1] The practice of printing the slips was introduced in 1861. It is interesting to note that the first printed slip is the following: CAXTON (Wm.). *The life and typography of W. C., &c., compiled by W. Blades. Vol. I.* 4to. London, 1861.

[2] Both these improvements are hinted at in the *Account of the Organization, &c.*, referred to above.

same effect. When he visited Cambridge last autumn he did not conceal his admiration for the stores of learning which were freely poured out for his benefit, and longed for a short-hand writer to take down the conversation of one who, he confessed, had made a greater impression upon him than any man whom he had met in England.

Of the more important qualifications of the learned librarian, Mr. Bradshaw possessed in an especial degree a knowledge of palæography and of early printed books. The facility with which he would read off the most crabbed handwriting of any century brought to him by the owner of a "manuscript marked illegible," was equalled only by the accuracy of his knowledge, which could assign it, almost at a glance, to the age and country in which it was written. A few moments allowed him for the examination of a manuscript would often enable him to correct an error which had puzzled, perhaps, generations of commentators, but which his exact eye at once detected as arising from a misreading of some contraction due to the original scribe. Of his knowledge of bibliography it will be convenient to speak later.

That the value of Mr. Bradshaw's work was appreciated quite as highly in the sister University as his own, is well known. It is an open secret, and no disparagement to the eminent man who now holds the proud position of Bodley's Librarian, to record that when that office was vacant, Mr. Bradshaw was strongly urged by several of his Oxford friends, including more than one of the curators of the library, to offer himself as a candidate for the post. He was much flattered by the proposal, which he justly regarded as a great compliment. But he was unwilling to break the associations which had so closely knit themselves with his life at Cambridge. Perhaps, too, he may have felt that his health and energies were not quite equal to the task of making an entirely new departure amid fresh surroundings. At any rate he remained faithful to his own University, which had been his home for so many years.

It is unnecessary to dwell at length in these pages on Mr. Bradshaw's connection with the Library Association, as the facts are probably known to most of our readers.[1] He was not a member of the Conference of Librarians which met in London in October, 1877, and though he joined the Association as a life-member soon after its formation, he took no part in its proceedings before the Annual Meeting in London in 1881. This tardiness of recognition on his part did not arise from any want of appreciation of the objects and aims of the Association. It was due in part to his habitual unwillingness to put himself into any prominent position, partly to the fact that his numerous engagements rendered it very difficult for him to absent himself from Cambridge. Perhaps also he may have felt that the constitution and requirements of a University Library differed so radically from those represented by the greater number of members of the Association that little profit could be anticipated from bringing them together. If this were ever the case, there is no doubt that experience dispelled the idea. At the London meeting in 1881 he was at first thought to be rather cold and reserved, but this wore off as soon as he had time to make the acquaintance of his colleagues, and before the close of the meetings he began to take a leading part in the discussions, particularly in private business on the constitution of the Association, and on the cataloguing rules. In 1882, at Cambridge, he filled the place of President of

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[1] The writer is indebted to Mr. Ernest C. Thomas for much of his information relating to Mr. Bradshaw's connection with the Association.

the Association, and delivered a most interesting Address at the opening of the meeting. Throughout the sittings he occupied the president's chair, and took a prominent part in the discussions. He was especially interested in the question of an Examination for Library Assistants, and in the Report on Size-notation, on the subject of which he appended a valuable note to his published *Address*. Of his genial though unostentatious hospitality it is unnecessary to speak. It was an essential part of his character. Altogether the Cambridge meeting was one of the most successful of the series, and its success was largely due to the President. The words of one member of the Association,[2] written to Mr. Bradshaw shortly after the close of the meeting, may be quoted here as speaking what all who were present felt :

" The memory of my visit to Cambridge will be a pleasure to me as long as my memory serves, and so long shall I remember with gratitude your great kindness to me. You will, I am sure, be glad to know that the influence you have had on me is not likely to be evanescent, and that my aspirations to more worthily fit myself for an honourable profession have been considerably strengthened. I believe that these annual gatherings do much to stimulate zeal in us all, and I am confident that the meeting, over which you presided, will be found to be one of the most fruitful of them all. I say this in all sincerity."

Mr. Bradshaw attended one or two meetings of the Council in the latter part of 1882, and was present at the Annual Meetings at Liverpool and Dublin. At the latter he gave a most admirable paper, or rather perhaps a lecture, on " Printing in Ireland," a subject on which no man living was better qualified to speak. He also read a paper on " Early Printed Bibles " at one of the monthly meetings in the spring of last year. A paper on the " History of English Binding," which had been promised for the Cambridge meeting, was, it is feared, never written. At the time of his death Mr. Bradshaw was working at this subject in conjunction with Mr. H. B. Wheatley, who had undertaken to assist him.

Henry Bradshaw died as he had lived, in the midst of his work, at peace with himself and with the world. After a serious illness in August last, he took a holiday in September with his friend, Professor W. Robertson Smith, who has since succeeded him in the University Library. He greatly enjoyed the expedition, in which they visited together many of the towns in the west and south-west of France. At the beginning of October he returned to his work at Cambridge apparently in his usual health. But though he went about his work as usual, and was cheerful as ever in society, he did not feel easy about himself, and his friends were very anxious about his health. Shortly before the end he wrote to several friends that he had not been equal to serious work of late, though the confession was hardly justified by the amount of work he actually did. On the evening of February 10 he joined a party at dinner in the house of a friend, and returned to his rooms at College in good spirits. The next morning he was found seated in his chair, but the life had fled. He passed away alone, perhaps in sleep, but there was no sign of pain upon his face. On February 15 he was laid to rest within the walls of the noble chapel beneath the shadow of which his life had been spent, a fitting resting-place for such a man. The impressive silence of the crowd of mourners who assembled round his grave testifies, if testimony be needed, to the genuine affection for one " whom " (to use the words of one who knew and

[2] Mr. C. E. Scarse.

loved him well) "to have known and loved is a lifelong possession; to have lost, a lifelong regret."

It remains to say something of Mr. Bradshaw's literary work, though here any notice must needs be inadequate. The list of his *Memoranda*, and of his *Communications to the Cambridge Antiquarian Society*, which is appended to this paper, serves rather to indicate the fields in which he excelled than to show how far he excelled in them. For, unfortunately, he published but little of his work. His too fastidious judgment, which made him intolerant of anything but absolutely first-class work, often led him to lay aside important papers, perhaps for years, until he could find some missing link in his chain of evidence, or visit some remote library to examine another copy of some scarce book; and too often the opportunity which he waited for never arrived. But though much has been irretrievably lost by his untimely death, much may yet be given to the world by a careful editing of the mass of papers which he has left. Among his many friends there should be no difficulty in finding persons competent to undertake a task which will be to them but a labour of love. But when all has been done, it will be to his method, and to the spirit with which he has inspired a host of workers, that the world will be indebted, quite as much as to his achieved results.

At the beginning of his career, Mr. Bradshaw contemplated a new edition of Tanner's *Bibliotheca Britannico-Hibernica*, and made important collections with this object. His attention was next directed to Chaucer, his work upon whom forms the subject of one of his *Memoranda*. A careful examination of all the manuscripts which he had access to, enabled him to prove that the Canterbury Tales as we have them are not a complete poem, but a series of fragments. Other important results were attained by a minute and careful study of the rhyme from which he hoped to get a sound basis for the grammatical knowledge and the orthography of Chaucer. His work on this head was handed over bodily to Mr. Furnivall, soon after his appointment as librarian, when he felt that there was little prospect of his being able to take it up again. Mr. Furnivall has always been the first to acknowledge his obligations to Mr. Bradshaw in this as in other departments.

Mr. Bradshaw's work on the manuscripts containing Celtic glosses occupied a large portion of his leisure for many years. His letter to Dr. Wasserschleben (*Memorandum, No.* 8) indicates briefly the discoveries which he made in this direction. His attention was first called to the subject by the manuscript of the *Hibernensis* in Corpus Christi College Library at Cambridge, when Haddan and Stubbs were preparing their edition of the Councils. His practised eye at once detected the continental character of the handwriting in this and other manuscripts which he examined subsequently, and hence he was led to doubt the view which had been generally accepted that the glosses contained in them were Welsh. "Further," he writes, "in spite of a rooted determination to avoid all semblance of trespassing on the domain of philology, I could not help noticing that some of the grammatical forms appearing in these manuscripts were, wherever distinguishable, rather Breton than Welsh." The conclusions at which he thus arrived, partly on independent grounds, were listened to unwillingly by philologists, until in 1877 he was enabled to visit Orleans, where he hoped to find traces of glossed manuscripts which might have been removed thither from the old monasteries of Brittany. His instinct was not at fault. A copy of the *Hibernensis*, containing three hundred and twenty glosses, came into his hands, and all doubts were

finally removed. To use his own words: "It became clear that Brittany had been overlooked; . . . that a continuation of the search for scattered manuscripts, bearing evidence of their having been written in the country, could not fail to be productive of fruitful results. By the accession of these new materials, the study of the Breton dialect had been placed on an entirely new footing." These contributions to vernacular dialects were sent to Mr. Whitley Stokes from time to time, "with a generosity as rare," writes Mr. Stokes, "as it is precious," and have since been published by M. Loth in his *Vocabulaire Vieux-Breton avec Commentaire* (Paris, 1884). The same generous feeling led him to another important discovery, which shall be told in his own words. "Rather more than a year ago," he writes in 1871, "I heard that Mr. Whitley Stokes was likely to be soon returning from India for a short stay. Seeing that he is far the most distinguished Celtic scholar that we have, I thought it might be practicable to find some traces of one or other of the branches of the Celtic stock of languages, some scraps possibly of old Irish, which had as yet escaped the researches of antiquarians and philologists, and which I could offer as a welcome to one who has done so much to elucidate the scanty fragments of these early literatures which have come down to us. For this purpose, I proposed to myself to make a deliberate raid upon the library of Archbishop Parker, at Corpus Christi College." The result was the discovery of the glosses in the *Martianus Capella* manuscript, which at once doubled the number of remains of the old Welsh language.

Another field in which Mr. Bradshaw excelled was in his knowledge of early English service books. Some fruits of this will, it is hoped, appear in the edition of the *Sarum Breviary*, now being brought out by Messrs. Procter, Grant and Wordsworth for the Cambridge University Press. Mr. Bradshaw had undertaken to give a complete account of all the editions of this Breviary, and for this purpose he had examined all the copies of it which are known to exist, taking Mr. Dickinson's list as a basis for his work. There remained only one copy known to him which he had not seen, that in the Althorp Library, which had been sent by Lord Spencer to the British Museum for his convenience at the time of his death.

In his knowledge of Irish literature he was, as has been already mentioned, second to none. Himself of Irish extraction, he inherited from his father a considerable collection of Irish books, which he had nearly doubled when, in 1871, he presented it to the University Library, and received the public thanks of the University for his generous gift, amounting to about five thousand different pieces. Since that date he had amassed a second collection of nearly three thousand more articles, which, owing to the generosity of his representatives in carrying out his intentions, will find its way to the same destination. His well-known acquaintance with this subject led to his engagement on the staff of writers of the *Dictionary of Christian Biography*, to the first volume of which he contributed several articles on the Irish saints. But this work was not much to his taste, and it soon passed into other hands. His knowledge of ritual naturally led him to take an interest in the constitution and customs of our old cathedral bodies. His work on the *Lincoln Statutes*, undertaken in the first instance for the sake of his friends in the Chapter of that Cathedral, will probably be found in a state almost ready for publication. He had also devoted considerable labour to arranging some of the documents belonging to Carlisle Cathedral, which came into his hands when they were sent to Cambridge to be bound.

Four of the eight published *Memoranda* belong to his bibliographical work.

Though his knowledge of early printing in general would have passed for profound in any other man, it was to the history of printing in Cologne and the Low Countries with which the beginnings of printing in England are naturally connected, that he specially devoted himself. It is needless to say that he was thoroughly familiar with the work of Caxton, but none but Mr. Blades could presume to pass judgment upon his knowledge of England's first printer, and Mr. Blades has always readily acknowledged his obligations to Mr. Bradshaw. He took a great interest in the project of the Caxton Celebration, and it was mainly due to his representations that it was held in 1877, the four-hundredth anniversary of the first known dated example of printing on English soil. His first projected *Memorandum* (in 1866), which never went further than a proof, relates to the work of Colard Mansion and his successor at Bruges.[1]

The method which he adopted in his bibliographical studies, and which he strove to get others to adopt also, is well indicated in the second of the Memoranda. The productions of the early printers must be arranged upon what he called a natural history system, according to countries, towns and presses, before we can expect to know much about them.[2]

"Put a book, about which you are anxious to learn something, among its fellows, that is, among the productions of the same and neighbouring presses, look at its surroundings for a few minutes, and your questions will solve themselves. You will be saved from all inducements to rash speculation. The facts will speak for themselves before you even have time to hazard a foolish conjecture." This is what he meant by a Classified Index of XVth century books. His published work upon the De Meyer Collection is only a sample of what he did in this direction. The Grenville Collection in the British Museum, and the catalogues of the Culemann and Vergauwen, and more recently, of the Wodhull Libraries, were all treated in the same way. The kind of results which he saw might be obtained from this method of study are indicated in his paper in the *Bibliographer* No 1, on *Godfried van der Haghen*, where he made good use of the materials collected in the University Library at Cambridge, mainly through his instrumentality, to identify the unknown publisher of one of the editions of Tindale's New Testament.

Mr. Bradshaw threw an enormous amount of work into his letters to his numerous literary correspondents. Many of these letters took the form of considerable pamphlets. It is to be hoped that the most important of them will shortly be collected and given to the world. Almost his last work was to send to Mr. James Anderson of Belfast, a letter on printing in that city. Within a week of his death he sent to Mr. F. Madan "*A Half Century of Notes on the Day-Book of John Dorne, Bookseller in Oxford, A.D. 1520*," which has now acquired a pathetic interest from the motto which he wrote round the title: "*Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest:*" Ecclesiastes, 9, 10—"*Quasi morientes et ecce vivimus.*"

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[1] The title of this tract is interesting as serving to indicate the work to which at that time Mr. Bradshaw intended to devote himself. It runs as follows: *MEMORANDA, chiefly concerning Early Printed Books and Manuscripts, and the Older Literature of Different Nations; collected by Henry Bradshaw. No.* 1.

[2] This arrangement has been adopted by Mr. Sinker in his catalogues of the fifteenth century books, and of the English books printed before MDCI now in the library of Trinity College, Cambridge.

APPENDIX.

Memoranda.[1]

1. The Printer of the Historia S. Albani. (February, 1868).

2. A Classified Index of the Fifteenth Century Books in the collection of the late M. J. de Meyer, which were sold at Ghent in November, 1869. (April, 1870).

3. List of the Founts of Type and Woodcut Devices used by Printers in Holland in the Fifteenth Century. (June, 1871).

4. The Skeleton of Chaucer's Canterbury Tales: an attempt to distinguish the several fragments of the work as left by the Author. Printed 1868; issued November, 1871).

5. Notice of a Fragment of the Fifteen Oes and other Prayers printed at Westminster by W. Caxton about 1490-91, preserved in the library of the Baptist College, Bristol. (November, 1877).

6. The University Library. Papers contributed to the Cambridge University Gazette, 1869. (November, 1881).

7. Address at the Opening of the Fifth Annual Meeting of the Library Association of the United Kingdom, Cambridge, September 5, 1882. With an Appendix. (October, 1882).

8. The Early Collection of Canons commonly known as the Hibernensis: a letter addressed to Dr. F. W. H. Wasserschleben. (June, 1885).

Godfried van der Haghen (G. H.), the Publisher of Tindale's own last edition of the New Testament in 1534-35—(*The Bibliographer*, Vol. I., No. 1, December, 1881).

Communications to the Cambridge Antiquarian Society.

On the Recovery of the long lost Waldensian Manuscripts. (Read March 10, 1862).

Two Lists of Books in the University Library. (Read November 17, 1862).

An early University Statute concerning Hostels. (Read May 11, 1863).

On Two hitherto unknown Poems by John Barbour, Author of the Brus. (Read April 30, 1866).

A View of the state of the University in Queen Anne's Reign. With a Facsimile. (Read December 3, 1866).

On the Earliest English Engravings of the Indulgence known as the "Image of Pity." With a Facsimile. (Read February 25, 1867).

An Inventory of the Stuff in the College Chambers (King's College), 1598. (Read March 9, 1868).

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[1] The *Memoranda*, so far as they are in print, are sold by Messrs. Macmillan and Bowes, Cambridge.

On the Engraved Device used by Nicolaus Gotz of Sletzstat, the Cologne Printer, in 1474. (Read November 21, 1870).

On Two Engravings on Copper by G. M., a wandering Flemish Artist of the XV-XVIth Century. With Two Notes. (Read November 21, 1870).

On the oldest written Remains of the Welsh Language. (Read November 20, 1871).

On the Collection of Portraits belonging to the University before the Civil War. (Read June 3, 1872).

Notes on the Episcopal Visitation of the Archdeaconry of Ely in 1685. (Read May 24, 1875).

On the A B C as an authorised school book in the Sixteenth Century. (Read May 24, 1875).

Notes on the various Spellings of the Name of St. Erasmus (appended to *Notes on the Past History of the Church of Holy Trinity, Cambridge;* read by J. Barton, Vicar, November 17, 1879).

OUR TOWN LIBRARY: ITS SUCCESS AND FAILURES.[1]

By James Yates, Public Librarian, Leeds.

The nineteenth century is peculiarly one of advancement. This may not only be noticed in the rapid strides which have been made in inventions as seen in the Exhibition now being held in London, but most strikingly when we consider the marked progress in science, art, and literature of the people generally during the last quarter of a century. This advancement may be traced to various causes, some of which it would be well to notice, as the causes which originated the new feeling in literature are still operating upon the minds of men and producing similar results. The nation had been confined within certain limits respecting those important subjects which make up its life, and upon the knowledge of which depends its material and commercial prosperity. True, there was literature abroad, but it was found almost exclusively in the possession of the rich or learned. The struggling classes of humanity were debarred these luxuries, not only by inability to purchase or otherwise gain access to the products of the thinking world, but by the insuperable difficulty of hopeless ignorance. Education, which was strictly denied to them, is now as stringently enforced, and as a natural consequence readers are multiplied by thousands. But be it remembered, there was the struggling period, when many were anxiously seeking after light, and were reaping bitter disappointment. It was not possible that this vast majority should be bound by such trammels, there being aspirations which sooner or later must be met, and deepest longings which to some extent must be gratified. The truest and most perfect state of a nation is when all can participate by research and careful study in those vital principles which build up a nation, and form the bulwarks of political, civil and domestic life and happiness. It is not possible for one portion

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1 Read at the Plymouth Meeting, September, 1885.

of the community to suffer without all participating in some degree in the same sorrow; the dark shadow will fall upon all. It is certain that no class can ultimately gain by dragging down another class into misfortune. In our time the great want was anticipated; an interpreter of this general yearning and deep groan of the multitude was found in the person of Mr. William Ewart, M.P. for Dumfries, assisted by the experience of our great Mentor, Edward Edwards. It was from Edwards' Memoirs of Libraries that I had the honour to read a chapter on Public Printing at our meeting held in Cambridge in 1882, the outcome of which, aided by this Association, has been the donation of most valuable records, published by Her Majesty's printers.

Sir James Picton, commenting upon a paper by Chancellor Christie at Liverpool, on the history of the ancient libraries of Lancashire, remarked how many had been established during the Protectorate of Oliver Cromwell. How singular if this man, who was the first amongst the European monarchs to force the Algerine pirate to give up his prey, should at that early date have recognised that the truest republic for the people was the republic of letters! Unfortunately for the popularity of his movement, the contents of these libraries were chiefly of a theological and controversial nature, and therefore were not calculated to secure general and universal interest, as is our aim at present. If the press of his day had included the writings of Goldsmith, Scott, and a host of others, not omitting Blackmore, &c., perhaps the removal of the may-poles would not have been so seriously felt by the people; the less sedate might have become interested, and these libraries have been continued to the present time. After this, it is not astonishing to find that the majority of those who formed the constitution of the United States were literary men, and that state and town libraries were organised and fostered by them.

In 1868 the Public Libraries Acts were adopted at a town's meeting held in the Mechanics' Institute at Leeds, under the presidency of Sir Andrew Fairbairn. The matter was left in abeyance by the Council until 1870, when Sir Andrew wrote to the Mayor calling attention to this neglect, and threatening a mandamus unless steps were at once taken to comply with the resolution. A committee of twenty-three members of the Council was formed, and my own appointment as librarian made. To give some idea of the prevailing ignorance, I was congratulated by representative men on the easy task to which I was appointed. They assured me I had secured a sinecure, as Leeds was not a reading centre, and even if it were, the Mechanics' Institute Library and the Leeds (Old) Library, limited to 500 shareholders, were adequate to meet every possible demand. Two councillors who had originally opposed the adoption of the Acts, afterwards intimated that had the matter to come under consideration again, they would gladly support it. You will perceive that the beginning of the work in Leeds was watched with jealous eyes, and its very life exposed to danger. Extreme care, due caution, earnest and patient labour have been necessary to its maintenance and growth. The present condition of our institution proves that the first step was in the right direction, viz., to secure temporary premises, saving our resources for amassing and distributing our stock of volumes, and proving to the town that 'the true university of our days is a collection of books.'

After a course of fifteen years we have accumulated 135,000 volumes, and the demand is constantly increasing. The other libraries of the town have improved proportionately. Shares in the Circulating Library offered in 1870, at £6, now command over £20. A leading bookseller in the town, a member of this Association, informs

me that his business has more than trebled itself in the last ten years. The selection, collating and cataloguing of nearly 10000 volumes each year represents no little care and trouble. Independently of advice offered by myself to the committee, the ratepayers have the power to suggest the purchase of any book not already in the libraries. By this method the co-operation of specialists is invited, and if they neglect to embrace this privilege and perform their duty as citizens, they themselves must be held to some extent responsible for any deficiencies that may appear on the shelves.

If a motto could express our ambition, it would be to "obtain two books instead of one," in other words, to double our books and double our readers. To secure this end, I have observed several points, the detail of which, I trust, may prove useful to junior librarians.

Give your library as brief and respect-inspiring a title as you can. Let your borrowers, for home reading, obtain books on the guarantee of one ratepayer, and in the case of the latter, on his own signature. Let your receipts for catalogues equal its expenses. Have few rules but adhere to them strictly. Let your transactions with booksellers and others be perfectly free from any taint of commission. Let your time be wholly devoted to helping others to their wants, and abstain religiously from digging into, or decanting, literature for your own benefit. In point of fact the librarian should be the intermediary between the producer of good books and the consumer.

Although the promoters of the Public Library in Leeds admit that it has been more successful than their most sanguine hopes could have foretold, it must be conceded there have been failures. After being established for several years, it was found that some of the branches were not doing adequate work for the amount expended on them, and they have been recently handed over to the School Board. They had been placed for the most part in sparsely populated suburbs. The area of Leeds is thirty-two square miles. One branch, situated in St. Peter's Square, a densely populated district of the town, long puzzled the Committee by its meagre returns. The neighbourhood is chiefly Roman Catholic. Instead of handing this branch to the School Board, additional facilities have been ordered for the school-children during the day.

After labouring in dingy and ill-adapted premises for fourteen years at the old Central Library, we were last year transferred to the new Municipal Buildings. The Bishop of Manchester (Dr. Fraser) and Mr. Justice Mathew both characterized our present suite of premises as the most gorgeous and magnificent they had ever seen in the provinces, adding, at the same time, that they were not acquainted with any buildings devoted to literature on such a sumptuous scale. It will at once strike the eye of the practical Librarian, that the architect has borne in mind the style of architecture described by Burke on the Sublime, when he says, "the first object is to subdue the light." This may be applicable to buildings erected in hot climates—Italy or Egypt, but is by no means so desirable in ours. By carrying out this idea the architect, in the present case, has materially crippled our accommodation for book-storing and light.

Increased public attention has been attracted to the Reference Library. In 1884 this department issued only 79,000 volumes, whilst Birmingham issued 300,000. Our issues have already made a leap, and I trust that this disparity will soon be removed. To strengthen this important and costly section of our work, application was made in 1880 to the late Lord Frederick Cavendish for copies of the Records. As the result of that application four hundred and fifty volumes were presented to us in February last, and I am glad to know that a similar gift was made to other public libraries in

the provinces. Another application was made in 1875 to the present Government for those published since 1881, as a continuance of this grace. It is not merely the material aid given to our limited penny rate but the enhanced value of town libraries being known to possess these Government publications as soon as they have seen the light, which makes the object worth persevering in.

Lord Hartington speaks of removing the last of those relics of feudalism which still prevent new capital from being employed in the purchase and development of the soil. It will be well, if he will also try to remove the present disability of the common people to obtain access to the productions of our Government presses, and if they cannot till the soil in their own right, let them cultivate their intellects.

Two attempts have been made to open our town Library on Sundays. It was considered, however, that six evenings a week until 9.30 afforded ample opportunities to all desirous of using the Reference Library. The Mechanics' Institute, Co-operative and British Workmen's Reading Rooms, all specially devoted to the artisan class do not think it desirable to open on the Sabbath. On each occasion the Council decided not to make this experiment with an institution intended for all classes of the community.

Ruskin, in the "Sesame and Lilies," speaks of the enormous outlay of the upper classes upon wine, as compared with their expenditure for books. A wonderful transfer of power is taking place at the present period, and one which I fear many municipalities are neglecting to utilise. Scarcely a month has passed during the last two years but some large collection of books, belonging to a noble house, has been dispersed under the auctioneer's hammer. Heretofore the spendthrift landowner, when hard-up, has cleared off timber to obtain ready money; now his attention is frequently turned to another and more available leaf-bearing object in the contents of his library shelves.

With the establishment of County Boards and the enfranchisement of the agricultural labourer, I trust we shall soon see a series of County Libraries spring up under the Public Libraries Acts, in the first place for legal literature, next for the local history, and lastly for general readers. In these many valuable works dispersed from noble houses may be gathered together again, to enlighten and edify a far wider circle of readers.

Unquestionably the pursuit of literature is one of the best investments of time and labour. In any line of life intelligence will enable a man to adapt himself more readily to circumstances, suggest improved methods of working, and render him more apt, skilled and effective in all respects.

Improvements have been carried into every branch of human industry. Science is made to relieve men of much drudgery. The quantity of labour requiring no skill to carry it on is enormously diminished, so that the knowledge imparted by literature and the intelligence which it gives has become, and will continue to become, more and more desirable and necessary. It must be a source of satisfaction to some of us to think that the tillers of the soil who are being driven into our town, from want of interest in the soil, will through our work be better prepared to accept with greater aptitude the duties that will devolve upon them on their return to their original sphere.

The Library Chronicle.

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is issued on the 15th of the month, and communications, books for review, etc., intended for the forthcoming number should be addressed, not later than the 10th of the month, to the Hon. Editor,* ERNEST C. THOMAS, *care of Messrs. J. Davy & Sons, 137, Long Acre, W.C.*

The attention of librarians and library committees, of publishers and booksellers, is called to the advantages of the CHRONICLE *(which represents at least 300 libraries) as an advertising medium. Advertisements of Library Vacancies, and of Books Wanted, or Duplicates for Sale or Exchange by Libraries are inserted at low rates.*

Members of the Library Association whose subscription for the current year has been paid are entitled to receive the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association cannot be responsible for the views expressed by the contributors to the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association.

MARCH MONTHLY MEETING.

THE March Monthly Meeting was held at Gray's Inn Library on Friday, March 5th, at 7.30. p.m., Mr. Chancellor Christie, V.P., in the chair. The following resolution was passed: "That this Meeting of the Association wishes to put upon record its sense of the severe loss which the Association has sustained in the death of its Members, Mr. Henry Bradshaw, Mr. Edward Edwards, and Mr. Henry Stevens; and that an expression of sympathy be communicated to the relatives of these Members."

It was announced that the following gentlemen had become Members of the Association: Mr. G. T. Audley, Librarian, Mechanics' Institution, Hanley; Mr. Charles Sturdie, Librarian, Manchester Athenæum, and Mr. W. E. Williams, Librarian, Free Library, Doncaster. It was also announced that the Sydney Free Library, Australia, had joined the Association.

The Hon. Sec. then read a Paper by Mr. C. W. Sutton, Chief Librarian, Manchester Free Libraries, "What our Readers do Read."

After a discussion, a vote of thanks was passed to the writer of the Paper.

The Meeting then adjourned

Library Notes and News.

HOME.

CAMBRIDGE: FREE LIBRARY.—At the Cambridge Free Library a selection of books is placed on shelves in view of the borrowers, and labelled "*Books worth reading.*" The selection includes all subjects, except fiction and periodical literature. The plan has answered well and many readers of fiction have been induced to read something healthier.

CAMBRIDGE: UNION SOCIETY. — The opening of the new rooms of the Cambridge University Union Society by Prince Albert Victor of Wales took place on the 24th Feb. They include a library capable of holding 50,000 volumes. A banquet was afterwards held.

CAMBRIDGE: UNIVERSITY LIBRARY.—Prof. W. Robertson Smith has been elected as Mr. Bradshaw's successor.

DEPTFORD.—The ratepayers of Deptford were polled on Feb. 15 on the question of adopting the Libraries' Acts. The number of voting papers issued was 12,800, and the result of the poll was, For the adoption of the Acts, 1890; Against, 3080; Majority against, 1190. Papers spoiled or returned blank, 738. It will be perceived, therefore, that the number of ratepayers voting were a minority of the whole number. Great interest was taken in the subject, and there appears to have been a good deal of canvassing. Of the three local newspapers, two were opposed to the adoption of the Acts. These papers printed letters addressed to them by our Member, Mr. G. R. Humphery, but in answer urged the terrible distress of the moment as a reason for waiting at all events. A body calling itself the "Deptford Parochial Association" issued an appeal to the ratepayers to the following effect:—

"To the ratepayers of St. Paul, Deptford. You will shortly be called upon to decide if a Free Library shall be established in this parish. The object is no doubt very commendable, but you must also consider the heavy rates you have to pay at the present time. If you vote for the proposed library, it will cost about £15,000 to start it, which will have to be paid for entirely out of the rates of this parish, and will entail a permanent increase of 1d. to 2d. in the pound in rates which already amount to the enormous

sum of 6s. in the pound ; considering the great depression of trade and the large number of artizans out of employment, who can scarcely find sufficient means to pay their way, is this a proper time to try and saddle us with this enormous expenditure? No!"

The misrepresentations in this circular are obvious, and are the more inexcusable because the promoters of the movement for adopting the Acts announced that they recommended that the rate should "be limited to one half-penny in the pound, which will produce £750 annually."

HARROGATE.—A public meeting of the burgesses of Harrogate was held in the Town Hall on Feb. 17th, the Mayor (Mr. Alderman Ellis) in the chair, to consider the question of adopting the Libraries' Acts. A motion in favour of their adoption was moved by Mr. Alderman Fortune, seconded by Dr. Russell, and carried with only three dissentients. The population of Harrogate is about 11,000, and the rate will produce about £280. Mr. Alderman Fortune stated that he had been in communication with four of the booksellers of Harrogate, all of whom had circulating libraries. One was present at the meeting to support the adoption of the Acts ; two were indifferent, while the fourth said that he should be delighted to pay his share of the library rate, and if anything was required for its initiation he would be glad to subscribe £5. This appears to have been one of the most unanimous meetings since the Public Libraries' Acts were passed.

LONDON : BETHNAL GREEN.—The Attorney-General (Sir Charles Russell) will preside at a public meeting on the 31st inst., for the purpose of celebrating the tenth anniversary of the opening of this institution (of which the Prince of Wales is patron) for the free use of the public. Sir T. Brassey, M.P., Sir Guyer Hunter, M.P., Sir Julian Goldsmid, M.P., Professor Stuart, M.P., the borough members, Sir E. H. Currie, Sir J. Tyler and others, have promised to be present. In connexion with this meeting the managers hope to raise £1000 for present needs and for the further development of the work. Contributions towards that amount may be sent to Mr. G. F. Hilcken, librarian, Free Library, Bethnal Green, E.

LONDON : ROYAL COLONIAL INSTITUTE.—We are glad to learn that the library of this Institute will, before long, be provided with a printed catalogue. An account of the library, which now numbers over 6000 volumes of colonial literature, appeared in *The Colonies and India* of Feb. 12, with an illustration.

NOTTINGHAM : FREE LIBRARIES.—The Children's Library Catalogue is almost out of print. It is now reprinting.

WORCESTER.—After a stormy meeting it has been decided to amalgamate the Public Library and the Schools of Science and Art, and locate them in one building, which is to be erected at a cost of £18,000.

FOREIGN.

CHICAGO.—We take a fuller account of the Newberry bequest from the New York *Nation* :—

"By the death of Mrs. Newberry the city of Chicago secures the greatest endowment for a Public Library that any American city holds. The late Walter L. Newberry was one of the early settlers of Chicago, who "entered" a large tract of land on the north side, and had the sagacity or the inertia to hold on to a large part of it through all periods of panic as well as through all periods of speculation. He died on board a steamer between Liverpool and New York some seventeen years since, leaving a widow and two daughters. He left a will giving one half of his estate for the purposes of a Public Library to be situated in the north division of Chicago, provided his daughters should die without issue, but this provision of the will was not to be executed until after his wife's death. The two daughters died without issue, and now the death of the widow is announced by a cable telegram from Paris. The portion of the estate which falls to the Public Library is estimated at 2,500,000 dols. When Mr. Newberry died there seemed to be slight chances that the city would ever get this benefaction. The two daughters, being attractive as well as rich, were much exposed to the risk of being married and becoming the mothers of families, the more especially as one provision of the Newberry will left the bulk of the estate to the daughter who should first be the mother of a male child, and should give him the name of Walter Newberry. Both daughters perished of consumption a few years after the death of the father. So Chicago now comes by her own—in part—for the advance in real estate which has made this great benefaction possible might equitably be claimed as a public dowry. Certainly Mr. Newberry did very little to earn 5,000,000 dols., unless we consider it earning to deny one's self the luxuries and

even the comforts which wealth puts in one's reach. He was an extremely penurious man, and one of the least public-spirited of all the wealthy men upon whom the unexampled growth of Chicago has heaped great riches. But the whirligig of time has not only given Chicago the means for establishing the greatest Public Library in the land, but has rescued the name of Walter Newberry from oblivion and inscribed it among those of the benefactors of the human race."

MONTE VIDEO.—The report of the National Library of Monte Video for the years 1881 and 1882 affords an interesting view of the working of a South American Library. The director, Don Pedro Mascaro y Sosa, prints all his official correspondence for the two years, which incidentally yields some curious glimpses of other libraries of the South American Continent. The Paraguay librarian, for instance, accepts the proposal of Monte Video for an exchange of national publications, but laments that it must be all on one side, on account of the total lack of authors in his country. The reason, unhappily too well founded, is that the Paraguay authors were entirely killed off in the war, for which the Monte Video librarian's countrymen are to no small extent responsible. Notwithstanding the smallness of the sum available for the purchase of books, the library acquired in 1882 no fewer than 1362 distinct publications by purchase, and 6679 by copyright. The numbers seem very large, but there can be little doubt that separate numbers of periodicals are reckoned as distinct publications. The weak point is the trifling use made of the books when acquired, it appearing that the average daily attendance at the reading-room is only eleven. A list of the acquisitions is given and arranged under the leading word of the title without reference to the author. They are a most curious medley.

PARIS.—The Bibliothèque Municipale Professionelle d'Art et d'Industrie, or Forney Library, a technical and Art Library for popular use, of which we gave some account in our first volume (p. 51), was opened on Sunday, Feb. 28th.

WEIMAR.—It is proposed to alter and furnish the Predigerkirche at Eisenach, built in 1233, as a library to receive a portion of the collection of books at the Wartburg.

WELLINGTON, N. Z.—From the *New Zealand Herald* of Dec. 16th, we learn that the Wellington Free Public Library now numbers 6751 volumes. The proportion of fiction circulated last year was not more than 30 per cent.

We have a melancholy pleasure in printing the article on his friend Mr. Henry Bradshaw, which Mr. C. E. Grant has contributed to our present number. It is very rarely that a man of the modest and retiring character of Mr. Bradshaw has his praises echoed by so many friends as have testified to the nobility of his nature, as well as the profundity of his knowledge. The fullest account that we have seen was contributed to the *Cambridge Review* (Feb. 17, 24, and March 3), by Mr. G. W. Prothero. The article in the *Saturday Review* (Feb. 20) was written, we believe, by Mr. J. W. Clark, while signed articles appeared in the *Academy* (Feb. 20), by Mr. J. H. Hessels, and in the *Printers' Register* (March 6), by Mr. W. Blades. The writer of another excellent notice in the *Academy* (Feb. 27), we are not at liberty to mention.

Obituary notices of Mr. Edward Edwards, have appeared in the *Academy* (Feb. 27), signed with the familiar initials W. P. C., and in the *Manchester Guardian* of Feb. 25, the latter presumably written by our friend Mr. Axon. We hope to give a notice of Mr. Edwards' life and work in our next.

So far this year has been a year of disaster to the Association. The death of Mr. Henry Stevens, which occurred on February 28th, has deprived us of another of our staunchest and best loved friends. The services of Mr. Stevens to the Association are best known to those who have conducted its work, but all who have attended our meetings, except the last, when ill health made it impossible for him to attend, felt that much of their enjoyment was due to the humour and geniality of the "young man from Vermont," who will cheer us with his presence no more! Mr. Wright reminds us that Mr. Cornelius Walford, Mr. Bradshaw and Mr. Stevens, sit side by side in the photograph of the Association taken at Cambridge.

An article by Mr. Magnússon on his "New Design for Libraries," with a plan appears in the *Athenæum* of Feb. 27th.

Record of Bibliography and Library Literature.

Dickensiana: a Bibliography of the Literature relating to Charles Dickens and his Writings. Compiled by Fred. G. Kitton. London: G. Redway, 1886, sm. 8vo. pp. xxii. 510.

Whether the industry devoted to the compilation of a list of books about Dickens might not have been more usefully turned to the description of the writings themselves of some other great figure in English literature is perhaps a question. The extracts and notes are interesting.

Decimal Classification and Relative Index, for arranging, cataloguing and indexing public and private libraries, and for pamphlets, clippings, notes, scrap-books, index, rerums, &c. Second Edition, revised and greatly enlarged, by Melvil Dewey, Boston: Library Bureau, 32, Hawley Street, 1885. 8vo. pp. 486. Price £1.

Mr. Melvil Dewey's highly ingenious decimal classification (first put into operation in the Amherst College Library, in 1873, and first printed in book form in 1876), is too well known to need special description. The present edition has been largely increased, the classification minutely elaborated, and the system altogether much developed. The main features remain the same.

Lexicon Pseudonymorum. Wörterbuch der Pseudonymen aller Zeiten und Völker oder Verzeichniss jener Autoren, die sich falsche Namen bedienten, von Emil Weller. Zweite, durchaus verbesserte und vermehrte Auflage. Regensburg: A. Coppenrath, 1886. La. 8vo. pp. x. 627. Price £1 8s.

The first edition of the work appeared under the name of *Index Pseudonymorum*, in 1856; supplements were added in 1857, 1862 and 1867. The present edition is considerably enlarged, and includes a useful sketch of the literature of the subject. As the work extends over the whole field of pseudonyms in all languages, completeness is not to be looked for, and it would be easy to point out (as for example among English writers), many omissions.

The Shelley Society, whose prospectus was issued with our last number, held a most successful inaugural meeting on March 10th. Dr. Furnivall was in the chair, and Mr. Stopford Brooke delivered an address. We hope that a great number of libraries will join this Society.

We have received from Mr. Dromgoole, of St. Helens, the paper by Mr. John Taylor, City Librarian, Bristol, on "The Earliest Free Libraries of England," part of which was read by Mr. Taylor at our Plymouth Meeting. It has been printed as a supplement to Mr. Dromgoole's newspaper, but may also be had in pamphlet form.

Mr. J. R. Boosé, of the Royal Colonial Institute, has contributed to the March number of the new paper, *Imperial Federation*, a bibliography of the subject of "Imperial Federation," extending from 1765 to 1886.

We have received a copy of the *Pall Mall Gazette* Extra, entitled "The Best Hundred Books." The enterprising conductors of the *Pall Mall Gazette* took a list of the best hundred books suggested by Sir John Lubbock, and sent it to the "hundred best judges," printing the replies received, which are now collected with an alphabetical "price list of the best books." This list leaves something to be desired in point of accuracy, and as it will doubtless be revised in the new edition already announced, it will be convenient to defer a fuller notice.

This incursion of a newspaper into the sphere of literature has excited much attention, and in particular we may notice an amusing article in Macmillan's Magazine for March on "A Century of Books."

Church Bells, of Feb. 5th, contains an article on "Village Libraries—How to improve them."

The *Library Journal* for January prints Mr. J. Russell Lowell's address at the opening of the Chelsea, Mass., Public Library, and a note by Mr. Haggerston, on the "Newcastle-upon-Tyne Card Catalogue." The February number contains a long article, severely criticising Mr. Melvil Dewey's "Decimal Classification and Relative Index," by Mr. F. B. Perkins and Mr. J. Schwartz, and plans of the proposed new building for the Library of Congress.

Mr. "Q. P. Index" has sent us copies of "The Monthly Index," which is supplied for 25 cents a year. It indexes some 54 magazines, English and foreign, on a broadsheet, printed on stout manilla paper.

The January number of the *Harvard University Bulletin* continues the catalogue of the "Kohl Collection of Early Maps," and the "Classified Index to the Maps contained in the Publications of the Royal Geographical Society."

Notes and Queries.

Notes.

Sumptuous Bindings.—The following illustration of the antiquity of sumptuous bindings may not be generally known: "Christi evangelia pretiosissimis gemmis redimire primam fuisse et primariam curam Imperatricis Adelheidis, Ottonis I. Conjugis, foeminae religiosissimae, memoriae prodidit Odilo, apud Canisium, Lect. Antiq. p. 405." Doederlein, Commentatio Historica de numis Germaniae Mediae, Norimb., 1729: p. 148, note. R. G.

MS. of R. de Bury.—I have this morning been reading in the train the last number of the *Library Chronicle*, and I have no doubt the answer to your query is to be found in the *Arundel* Collection in the British Museum. There is a MS. of the *Philobiblon* there, and the Arundel MSS. were formerly Gresham MSS. Some are also in the College of Arms. W. D. M.

Query.

Tertiodecimo.—In Pepys's Diary for September 9, 1666 (vol. IV, p. 82, Bright's edition), he reports: "To church again, and there preached Dean Harding [Hardy], but methinks a bad poor sermon, though proper for the time; nor eloquent, in saying at this time, (immediately after the 'Fire'), that the City is reduced from a large folio to a decimo tertio." Is such a size as decimo tertio extant? or possible? and, if not, is the error the Dean's? or Pepys's? or does it arise from a misinterpretation of Pepys's shorthand? R. G.

Correspondence.

Tables of Comparison.

I have recently received the report of a flourishing (Free) Public Library in a large county in the North of England, which contains a table showing the relative popularity of a number of free libraries. I desire to point out that the issues of the free libraries of several towns with a population of less than 150,000 are given, whilst no reference is made to the free libraries of one town (at least), of greater importance than these. The necessary information is available to the librarian who compiled the table of comparison under notice. N. R. E.

Errata.

In our last number, on p. 14, ll. 9 and 11 from bottom, for *Ralph* read *Ralegh*; and on p. 15, l. 5 from bottom, for *Ashley* read *Astley*.

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The Library Chronicle.

LIBRARIES FOR THE YOUNG.[1]

By J. Potter Briscoe, Librarian, Free Public Libraries, Nottingham.

NOW that education has been brought to the very doors of the present generation, it is necessary to consider the changed aspect of affairs as compared with the days when children were permitted to grow up in ignorance. Children are not content in these days to spend all their leisure moments in running about the streets, in attending to the younger members of the family, and in other ways peculiar to preceding generations. Even at the age of seven or eight years boys and girls are able to read with great facility, and with some degree of intelligence. This feature in the juveniles of to-day should be carefully considered by all whose desire it is to promote the welfare of the rising generation. The love of reading should be fostered in such a manner as will afford both recreation and knowledge. How is this to be effected? To satisfy the craving for books by several children of both sexes in any household means a considerable outlay on the part of their parents—an expenditure which the middle and the working classes cannot afford. As these sections of the community constitute the greater portion of the people, we must consequently consider their needs and, as far as practicable, supply their wants. This can best be done by the extension of the Public Library system—by the establishment of Free Public Libraries for Children.

In some of our rate-supported lending libraries Juvenile Sections have been formed. Here juvenile borrowers have to mix with adults, often to the inconvenience of both. No special rules have been framed for the regulation of juvenile borrowers, except, I believe, at Nottingham. Catalogues of juvenile literature have only, in a very few instances, been issued separately and at a small price, and thus the full advantages of the section have not been derived by the children.

It is highly desirable that children's libraries should, where practicable, be located in rooms to themselves, and in the same building as an adult library, where they can be under the immediate supervision of the principal librarian. Where this is not possible (as at Nottingham), a room should be secured in a central position. When an apartment cannot be obtained for the exclusive use of libraries for young people,

[1] Read at the Plymouth Meeting, September, 1885.

then one end of the central lending library should be partitioned off, or, at any rate, a part of the counter reserved for the issue of books to juveniles.

Shelving should be provided for from two to three thousand volumes. The cost would depend entirely upon the material, fittings, and workmanship. The library should be made as attractive in appearance as possible. Coloured illustrations from *The Graphic* and other similar papers should adorn the walls, and be changed from time to time.

A Children's Library for a large town should consist of at least two thousand volumes. The cost would vary according to circumstances, but, if all were purchased, it would be from £200 to £250. There are, however, people in every town who, if appealed to, would gladly contribute either money or suitable books to such an object as the formation of a Children's Library. We were able to establish our Children's Library in Nottingham through the liberality of Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P. for Bristol, a manufacturer of Nottingham. That philanthropist presented £500 for the purpose, but only £300 has been expended of that sum: the balance will probably be devoted to the formation of a similar library in another portion of our extensive borough. Gifts were also forthcoming from various ladies and gentlemen, including authors.

Before, however, getting the stock together, the ages of intending borrowers must be decided upon. We have borrowers from seven years of age up to the maximum of fourteen years, at which age they join our library for adults.

To enlist the sympathy with, and secure the confidence of parents and others in, the movement, it is desirable to solicit suggestions as to the titles of works to be obtained. This will not only bring suggestions but gifts of suitable books.

In selecting the stock for libraries for the young several conditions should be observed. Firstly, that books shall be adapted to the varying ages of borrowers; secondly, that there shall be great variety; thirdly, that no books shall be admitted unless *known* to be of a perfectly unobjectionable character, and free from the "goody goodiness" which disgusts children of our day; fourthly, that the books shall be attractive in the style of writing, well got up as regards paper, printing, and illustration; and that under no circumstances should works printed in type smaller than "long primer" [like this type] be admitted, for obvious reasons; and fifthly, that no school class books (known as such) should be obtained.

In order to preserve uniformity of system, the classification of the juvenile library should be the same as the library for adults with which it is associated. Certain classes will however be omitted, or but slightly represented, on the shelves. For instance, theological works should be admitted very sparingly, and selected with very great care. Works on philosophy and philology, would necessarily be excluded. The largest class in a Children's Library will naturally be that containing tales. These should comprise about fifty per cent. of the stock of the library. They should be selected from the writings of men and women of undoubted ability as writers for the young. In forming this section regard must be had to the varying tastes of the future users of the library, and as great variety provided as possible. Little girls (and little boys too) will eagerly devour the fairy tales written by Andersen, Lord Brabourne, Lewis Carroll, the Brothers Grimm, Craik, Tabor, Gustaffson, Fryer, Yonge, Charles Kingsley, Ewing, and others. Stories of home life and life among the lowly are read by girls of varying ages, and should be provided in large numbers. Amongst the authors comprised in this class are Alcott, Aguilar, Lady and Mrs. Sale Barker, C. D. and M. M.

Bell, Hall, Stowe, Yonge, Ward, Bramston, Marshall, Edgeworth, Molesworth, Gatty family, Paull, Phelps, "Hesba Stretton," "Marianne Farningham," Whitney, the Warners, the Howitts, Eiloart, Tytler, Walton, Ewing, Yeames, Hocking, and "A. L. O. E." School tales by "Tom Brown," H. C. Adams, Archdeacon Farrar, May, Eiloart, Gellie, and "Ascott R. Hope," are great favourites. Stories based upon travels are very greatly sought after by all boys. Certain works by Abbott, Aimard, Baker, Biart, Bowman, Cooper, Du Chaillu, Eden, Gerstaecker, Henty, and Mayne Reid, are desirable in this section. "The sea hath its charms" for boys of all ages, and sea stories are consequently much "run upon" by them. To supply this demand works by Ballantyne, Cooper, Kingston, Marryat, Mayne Reid, Sadler, Sargent, Valentine, Verne, and other writers, should be provided in duplicate. Historical tales are equally popular. To supply this class of reader certain books should be obtained from the pens of such authors as Ainsworth, Edgar, Erckmann-Chatrian, Grant, Henty, Kingsley, Kingston, Lytton, and Scott.

Periodicals follow tales in point of popularity among the juveniles. The stock of a library formed for children ought to comprise about ten per cent. of periodical literature (including annuals). Amongst the most popular publications of this class are *Union Jack*, *St. Nicholas*, *Good Words for the Young*, *Boys' Own Paper*, *Girls' Own Paper*, *Routledge's and Peter Parley's Annuals*, Aunt Judy's Volumes, and Beeton's *Boys' Own Volume*.

Works on history, biography, voyages, and travel, are next in demand. The most popular writers in history for the young (apart from writers of school books), are Abbott, Gleig, Grant, Hoare, Selby, Valentine, and Yonge. Among the numerous writers of biography for children are Smiles, Kingston, Darton, and Gleig. The popular writers of works of travel (not stories based on travels), include Baker, Stanley, Du Chaillu, Kingston, Lindley, Dr. Macaulay, Waterton, MacGregor, Jones, and Frost.

Of scientific subjects children are most inclined to natural history. Here the Rev. J. G. Wood reigns supreme. Experimental chemistry is also a popular subject. The works of Professor Pepper and Mr. E. Routledge, the Popular Educator, and Universal Instructor, are amongst the works of popular science suitable for children's libraries.

The poems of Cook, Longfellow, Hemans and Louis L. Stevenson, and the collection of Palgrave, are desirable works to have. The desire for poetry is, however, not strong in children.

The fine and useful arts ought to be represented by popular works to the extent of about one per cent. of the whole stock.

Supposing that the library is now formed, the question arises as to what kind of catalogue should be prepared. The qualities that should characterise it are simplicity, utility, and cheapness. Let all books be catalogued only under the name of the author where known, and when unknown (or in the case of a magazine) under the leading word of the title. This list can be marked by parents or borrowers, handed to the attendant, and the titles erased by the borrowers as the books are returned to the library. This plan, besides being simple and useful, is also an economical one, and permits of the catalogue being sold at a price within the limits of the pocket-money of any would-be borrower.

Great care should be exercised in the appointment of a librarian. A person

holding this position ought to have, in addition to the ordinary qualifications of a library assistant, a love for children, and to be accustomed to their management. Ex-pupil teachers of both sexes are admirably adapted for this position.

The library being ready, the next question which arises is that of membership. It has already been suggested in this paper, that children should be admitted to the privileges of borrowing between the ages of seven and fourteen years. The consent of parents for their children to borrow should be secured before a card of membership is issued. For this purpose a form of consent and the usual guaranty form should be combined.

Having framed rules and secured members by the ordinary methods, you have next to provide them with reading which should be suited to their varying temperaments, ages, &c. Who are responsible for creating a love for good reading and the proper selection of books, librarians or parents? Undoubtedly the latter, for several obvious reasons, although librarians may, as far as circumstances will permit, be consulted on the matter. In an address on this subject, to the teachers of Quincy, Massachusetts, Mr. Charles Francis Adams, Junr., Trustee of the Public Library, wisely stated that "in trying to inoculate children with a healthy love of good reading, the first thing to be borne in mind is that they are not grown people. There are few things more melancholy than to reflect on the amount of useless labour which good, honest, conscientious men and women have incurred, and the amount of real suffering they have inflicted on poor little children through the disregard of this one obvious fact." (*L. J.* i. 439.) "Let parents realise that on them rests the responsibility for their children's choice of books, which cannot be assumed by any other persons or by any other institution; that their children may in turn transmit a more glorious, intellectual, and moral nature, the books read serving as the sign manual of noble knighthood." (Mrs. Kate Gannett Wells, in *L. J.* iv. 330.)

The cost of maintaining libraries for the young varies according to circumstances. If they were associated with adult libraries the items of rent, cleaning, warming, and lighting need not appear in the estimate, but if rooms have to be engaged the cost of maintenance will be increased by the amount of rent to be provided. At Nottingham a large and suitable room is placed at our service for the purpose of a Children's Library (with cleaning, lighting, and warming), for the nominal sum of £20 a year. The salaries of assistants, binding, stationery, and the supply of new books from time to time must, however, be taken into consideration. At Nottingham £26 a year is paid to the young lady assistant in charge, a similar sum has been annually paid for binding, and £10 to £15 a year expended in new books. The annual expenditure for our Children's Library of nearly 3000 volumes, with a daily average issue of nearly a hundred volumes, is about £100 per annum. Children's Libraries for small towns and villages, open on, say two evenings per week, can, however, be established and maintained at a much smaller cost than that indicated, the sum varying greatly with local circumstances.

COUNTY BIBLIOGRAPHY.[1]

By Robert Harrison.

Of the various existing divisions of bibliography that which confines itself to the illustration of any one county of the United Kingdom is by no means the least interesting or instructive. The compiler of such a work feels at liberty to gather into his net the smallest as well as the largest printed document that has the remotest connection with his county. More comprehensive works will not admit of this being done. "Gough's British Typography,"[2] for instance, the first great work on the subject, does not descend to a catalogue of funeral sermons preached on the death of some eminent person in a parish. Nor does Upcott, in his more handy and useful work on English topography.[3] It is true, nevertheless, that Upcott did prepare a second edition of his work, a manuscript now in the British Museum, in which he had inserted the titles of trivial pamphlets, speeches, sermons and other ephemeral productions to an extent that would have rendered the work, when printed, cumbrous and inconvenient.[4]

It may be well here to remind you of the copious bibliography of each county contained in "The Beauties of England and Wales."[5] The list of prints and maps affixed to the description of the several counties is also most useful to collectors.

Nor can Mr. Anderson's recent "Book of British Topography" be forgotten. It is a classified catalogue of the topographical works relating to Great Britain and Ireland, which are to be found in the Library of the British Museum. The arrangement is chronological, under separate heads of counties, with an alphabetical index of names at the end.[6]

There is also, among the works awaiting publication by the Index Society, a list of local histories, arranged alphabetically under the names of places only. An American gentleman is, as I am informed, preparing at the present time a work of the same nature for the American press.

Enough has been said to show that the student of the topography of the kingdom in general will not find himself without guides, though he may have little difficulty in discovering deficiencies in all the works above mentioned. It is then that he will have

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[1] Read at the January Monthly Meeting.

[2] Gough, R., British Topography; account of what has been done for illustrating the Topographical Antiquities of Great Britain and Ireland, 2 vol. 4to., 1780.

[3] Upcott, Wm., Bibliographical Account of the Principal Works relating to English Topography, 3 vol., 8vo., 1818. The collation of books in this now rare work, are most accurate and valuable.

[4] The adventures which this MS. underwent were singular. When Upcott's library was sold at Sotheby's there came up, in two separate lots, two large bundles of what seemed to be old newspapers. One lot was bought by the late Mr. Lilly, the other by some one else. When examined it was found that the newspaper sheets were covered with title slips arranged alphabetically, being in fact copy for a second edition of Upcott's work. One bundle containing about half the alphabet found its way to the British Museum; the other lay hidden in Mr. Lilly's garret until the late Mr. Leonard Hartley, who thought of publishing a second edition with the assistance of the present writer, bought the bundle, and ultimately presented the missing half of the Catalogue to the British Museum. The second edition project was never fulfilled.

[5] The Beauties of England and Wales, by John Britton and E. W. Brayley, 25 vol., 8vo., 1801-15.

[6] Anderson, J. P., The Book of British Topography, a classified Catalogue of the Topographical Works in the Library of the British Museum, relating to Great Britain and Ireland, 8vo., 1881.

recourse to special county bibliographies. "The range of reading to which the county collector is invited is hardly credible; works that have no intrinsic claim to be remembered challenge perusal when they bear a provincial name: ballads, squibs, tracts and sermons, dull or fanatical, quaint or orthodox, become interesting to him." These remarks of Mr. Streatfield in his *Excerpta Cantiana* are quoted in the preface to one of the most complete of county bibliographies, a volume published by Mr. John Russell Smith (now the senior of old booksellers) in 1837 under the title of *Bibliotheca Cantiana*.[1] The book is most carefully compiled, and contains many curious notices of persons and places that a reader would hardly expect to find in a catalogue of books. I am tempted to quote other words of Mr. Streatfield in favour of that oft abused branch of literature, topographical history: "If I propose," he says, "to devote to general history a greater proportion than is customarily admitted in topographical works, it is because I feel justified in taking a far different view of many of the events to those hitherto given. There are events on which an acquaintance with the alliances of the actors or sufferers, which falls peculiarly in the way of the provincial historian, diffuses light and importance in places previously dark and uninteresting; many in which the prejudices of the chronicler have poisoned the current of history but with so little artifice as to furnish at the same time the antidote." Elsewhere he says, in alluding to the minutiæ of local literature, "Fastidious correctness is the essence of history, whether general or provincial; and the moment a writer jumps to a conclusion, he shakes the confidence with which we ought to refer to his pages."[2] It is deeply to be regretted that Mr. Streatfield did not live to achieve the great enterprise he had so ably projected of a new history of Kent.[3]

The utility of local bibliographers to the general historian may be illustrated by one or two examples selected at random from the *Bibliotheca Cantiana*. Here is the "Historie of Wyates Rebellion," by John Proctor, master of the Free School at Tunbridge. It was published in 1554, and dedicated to Queen Mary. Proctor's vicinity to the scene of action makes it highly probable that he knew more particulars of the rebellion than many other people. Again Matthew Carter's "most true and exact relation of that as honourable as unfortunate expedition of Kent, Essex and Colchester by M. C., a loyall Actor in that engagement A.D. 1648," printed in 1650 (a year after the King's decapitation). The author acted as Quarter-Master General in this expedition, and he records several particulars not noticed by Lord Clarendon and our general historians. He concludes his narrative with the following prophetic paragraph:

> "For my own part, I will not despaire while there is mercy in heaven and a just title upon earth, but Charles the Second may fulfil that prophecie that is so authentically averred concerning his person, when all these horrid distractions and clouds shall vanish into a calm and there shall be no more a Babel city:
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> Carolus a Carolo Major erit Carolo Magno."

A notable tract mentioned by Smith is the "Five days peregrination of Hogarth, and four friends into Kent, in May 1732." It was printed for R. Livesay in 1782,

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[1] Bibliotheca Cantiana: a bibliographical account of what has been published on the History, Topography, Antiquities, Customs, and Family Genealogy of the County of Kent by John Russell Smith, 8vo., 1837.

[2] Excerpta Cantiana, being the prospectus of a History of Kent, preparing for publication, by the Rev. Thomas Streatfield, F.S.A., folio, 1836.

[3] A History of the Hundred of Blackheath, by Mr. Streatfield, completed by Mr. Larking, folio, 1886, has just made its appearance.

with nine etchings and as many pages of letter-press, reprinted in Hogarth's Works 4to. vol. 3, 1808, and turned into Hudibrastic verse by Mr. Gostling, author of the "Walk in and about Canterbury 1774."

Since the art of classifying books and their titles is most easily acquired by the study of numerous examples, I give the order of arrangement severally adopted by the authors of the few examples I give of Catalogues of county and local literature.

The arrangement of Mr. Smith's book is simple and clear, and in the several sections chronological.

These are the great divisions:—

1. Historians of the County.
2. Principal Maps.
3. Heraldic Visitations.
4. Civil War Tracts (1640-1660).
5. Acts of Parliament, Local, Personal and Private.
6 Works relating to the County in General.
7. Works relating to Particular Parishes.
8. Index of Places and Subjects.
9. Index of Persons.

The bibliographical matter of the volume is agreeably interspersed with biographical notices culled from Antony Wood, Nichols's Literary Anecdotes, and various other sources.

Mr. Boyne's "Yorkshire Library"[1] is arranged somewhat on the plan of Upcott's "Account of English Topography." Careful collations of the books with lists of plates are given. In many instances the prices of books at the time are added. Criticism is not withheld; one history of the county being called "this catchpenny book."

The first division, "topography," is divided into five sections, on a geographical principle, which would be rather confusing to a searcher were it not for the indexes of towns and authors at the end of the volume. The division styled "miscellaneous" includes "poetry" and "books partly relating to Yorkshire."

Of civil war tracts relating to the county, Mr. Boyne enumerates 119, of various degrees of interest.

The division "memoirs and biography" includes writings by those quaint personages, Thomas Gent, printer, of York, and John Cole, bookseller, of Scarborough. The division entitled "spaws, geology, and botany" includes books connected by a somewhat remote analogy. Knaresborough, Harrogate, and Scarborough claim pre-eminence in this division.

The list of portraits, and of antiquarian and topographical plates connected with the county, will be found useful to many collectors.

The volume contains engraved portraits of Dr. Drake, historian of York, and of Thomas Gent, the printer. Besides these, there are twenty woodcuts of seals printed in the letterpress, and a silhouette of Cole the Scarborough bookseller.

Among Mr. Boyne's literary notes may be indicated his account of the author of "A new Scarborough Guide," by a Gentleman, 1797, with the motto:

No party lies I herald for the press,
But modest truth in artless English dress.

[1] Boyne, W., Yorkshire Library: a bibliographical account of Books and Tracts relating to the County of York, small 4to., 1869.

This artless "gentleman" was a notorious swindler and bigamist, John Hatfield by name, and was executed for forgery, leaving, as one of his widows, Mary the Maid of Buttermere.

Colonel Fishwick's "Lancashire Library"[1] is laid down on very much the same plan as that adopted by Mr. Boyne. The titles of works in topography are arranged more strictly in an alphabet under names of places; those in biography under names of the persons described; and those in poetry, fiction and miscellany under the names of their authors. The list of "Works partly relating to Lancashire" occupies forty-two pages, and includes extracts from the Reports of the Royal Historical Commission, from the Proceedings of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, and from other similar publications. Col. Fishwick has excluded from his Catalogue of Tracts and Pamphlets everything published after 1720, on account of their great number and small value. The list of sermons and theological treatises referring to or published in the county during the seventeenth century call for no remarks here. A general index and an index of authors greatly facilitate the use of the volume. In addition to the prices here given of most of the books, a statement of the library in which a copy of each work is to be found greatly increases the utility of this county bibliography.

Mr. Walter Rye's excellent "Index to Norfolk Topography,"[2] published by the Index Society in 1881, is on quite a different plan from the books already mentioned. Nearly every place in the county bearing a name is to be found in alphabetical order in this index, and whatever has been written or printed about each place is referred to and its source indicated. Blomfield's History of the County and Charnock's Index to it naturally hold a prominent place, but there are thirty-eight other collections mentioned in the preface which have been ransacked for facts and observations relating to Norfolk; to say nothing of the Annual Register, the Gentleman's Magazine, and Notes and Queries, local publications like the East Anglian, the Eastern Counties Collectanea, and the Norfolk and Norwich Archæological Society's Transactions have been subjected to the same process. Neither the MS. collections in the British Museum, nor those in the Bodleian have escaped a searching examination. The Baker and the Parker MSS. at Cambridge, the Lambeth Library MSS., the Ashmolean MSS. have all yielded some spoils to the indefatigable explorer, at an expenditure of labour which seems well-nigh appalling. Mr. Rye, who in his preface gives a succinct account of the chroniclers and writers of the general history of the county, modestly avers that his book is "very incomplete and inaccurate," but "at worst may serve as an example of bad work which may encourage collectors for other counties to do better." To this self-disparagement the readers of the Index will surely not agree, but will rather desire fervently that the author may fulfil ere long the promise half given at the end of the preface, "that an index of subjects and things, to accompany the present volume," may be issued, and possibly be followed by an index of names.

Mr. Mayo's "Bibliotheca Dorsetiensis,"[3] 1885, the latest published county biblio-

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[1] Fishwick, Lieut.-Col., the Lancashire Library: a bibliographical account of the County Palatine, small 4to., 1875.

[2] Rye, Walter, Index to Norfolk Topography, small 4to. *Index Society*, 1881.

[3] Bibliotheca Dorsetiensis being a carefully compiled account of printed Books and Pamphlets relating to the History and Topography of the County of Dorset, by Charles Herbert Mayo, M.A., of Lincoln College, Oxford, Vicar of Long Burton, &c., small 4to., privately printed at the Chiswick Press, London, 1885.

graphy on my list, will bear comparison with any of its predecessors. For fulness and minuteness of detail it can hardly be surpassed. Mr. Mayo in his preface does indeed say apologetically that he has not included magazine articles which have not been issued in a separate form, nor "volumes of theological or general literature, except "where they contain some valuable local or personal allusion, or appear to be of some "historical significance." Mr. Mayo's generosity could scarcely go further than this. He not only mentions public and private Acts of Parliament relating to the county, but particulars of the sale of estates, which are often found to contain topographical information of interest. Chap-books, leaflets, election addresses, election squibs find a place in the list.

The arrangement of his very copious catalogue of Dorsetshire literature is as follows: 1, Histories and Descriptions; 2, Tours; 3, Guide Books; 4, Directories; 5, Antiquarian Literature; 6, Historical Literature; 7, Political Pamphlets, &c.; 8, Poll-books; 9, A hoard of Election Hand-bills (Tory); 10, County Affairs; 11, Assize, &c., Sermons; 12, Ecclesiastical Literature; 13, Works illustrating Social Life; 14, The Dorset Dialect; 15, Agricultural Publications; 16, Natural Histories, &c.; 17, Almanacs; 18, Newspapers; 19, Acts of Parliament; 20, Maps of Dorset; 21, Works relating to particular Parishes; 22, Addenda; 23, The Printers of Dorset; 24, Notanda; 25, Index of Authors' Names.

The titles in each division are arranged chronologically. Division 9, A Hoard of Election Handbills, illustrated by snatches of satirical verse, is quite amusing.

From the section of Historical Literature I glean the following set-off to the various editions of "The Bloody Assizes" enumerated:—

"The humble petition of the widows and children in the West of England, presented to this present Convention." *Single sheet* folio (reprinted in the second and last collection of the Dying Speeches, 4to., 1689). The document begins:—

> "We, to the number of a thousand and more, widdows and fatherless children . . . . desire that the said George Jefferies, late Lord Chancillour, the vilest of men, may be brought down to the counties aforesaid, where we, the good women in the West, shall be glad to see him and give him another manner of welcome than he had these three years since."

In the account of Hutchins's History of Dorsetshire, *second edition*, 1796—1815, mention is naturally made of the lamentable fire at the printer's, on February 8th, 1808, which destroyed the whole that was printed of vol. iii. (with the exception of a single copy preserved in the Library at Enfield) together with all that remained unsold of the two former volumes, of which only 112 copies had been sold. The third and fourth volumes were reprinted, but the first and second became and long continued extremely scarce and costly.

This led to a nefarious practice, by which not a few purchasers were deceived, of making up sets in four volumes, which were lettered *second edition*, but which consisted in fact of the first edition in two volumes, 1774, united to the third and fourth volumes of the second edition. The temptation to this practice, occasioned by the high price of the complete second edition (sometimes £100) ceased when Mr. Shipp, of Blandford, published in 1861-70 a third edition in four volumes, folio, for £12.

Among the curious pamphlets enumerated by Mr. Mayo are four relating the proceedings in a case of divorce promoted by the wife of a wealthy Dorsetshire squire against her husband for impotency. It seems to show the laws of the realm in

conflict with the laws of human nature. The allegations are said to have been admitted by both parties, and a decree of divorce was pronounced. Yet the husband having married again had issue three sons and a daughter.

Another remarkable document mentioned on p. 241 is "A true and wonderful relation of a whale cast on the shore within three miles of Weymouth, within whose body was found a Romish priest, with pardons for divers Papists in England and Ireland." 4to., 1645.

Mr. Mayo supplies, as far as he can, information as to the libraries in which the books he describes are to be found. His list of "The Printers of Dorset," at the end of the volume, forms a valuable supplement to the list of provincial printers contributed by Mr. Allnutt to our TRANSACTIONS at the annual meeting in Oxford.

I will not conclude without mentioning two important topographical catalogues, that of Gough's bequest to the Bodleian, and Hoare's Stourhead catalogue. The catalogue of Mr. Gough's books relating to British topography and Saxon and Northern literature, bequeathed to the Bodleian Library in 1799, which was published in 4to at Oxford, 1814, I have not had an opportunity of seeing. The Catalogue of the Hoare Library at Stourhead, County Wilts, printed for private use, royal 8vo, in 1840, is a very valuable contribution to topographical literature. It is arranged in counties, and the titles are given under the names of the parishes and places described, and not under the names of the authors. There is, however, an index of authors at the end of the volume.

Other works might be mentioned, such as Davidson's Devonshire Catalogue, which we expect to see largely improved upon by our friend and colleague, Mr. Wright of Plymouth. Still much remains to be done, and I would call the attention of Librarians who have any leisure to this extensive and fruitful field of bibliographical labour, where they may benefit their neighbours and increase their knowledge of their county.

IN MEMORIAM: EDWARD EDWARDS.

By ERNEST C. THOMAS.

THE death of Edward Edwards has removed from among us a man whose whole life may be said to have been devoted to libraries and librarianship. His earliest publication on these subjects dates so far back as 1836; whilst his last—apart from the long announced but still expected second edition of his *magnum opus*, the "Memoirs of Libraries"—was a series of articles on "Researches for Manuscripts in the Levant," which he contributed to these pages in the summer of 1884.

The first publication here referred to was a "Letter to Mr." (afterwards Sir Benjamin) "Hawes, M.P., on the Management and Affairs of the British Museum," and consisted of some observations on the evidence adduced before a Select Committee of the House of Commons in 1835. In the following year the committee was re-appointed and took further evidence, in the course of which Mr. Edwards was examined by the Committee, his pamphlet forming the basis of the examination. In his pamphlet, and in his evidence, Mr. Edwards spoke of course as one of the public, and called attention to the greater facilities required by readers, and to the deficiencies of the Museum, especially in foreign literature, as well as to the need of an improved catalogue.

Early in 1839 he became a supernumerary assistant in the Printed Book Department, where his chief employment was to assist in the preparation of Mr. Panizzi's new general catalogue. He was one of the members of the small committee who assisted Mr. Panizzi in drawing up the rules on which the catalogue was to be compiled. While he was at the Museum he also catalogued the Thomason pamphlets, a task which occupied him "between four and five years." An account of his work upon these subjects was given by him in his evidence before the Commissioners appointed to enquire into the constitution of the British Museum in 1849. Mr. Edwards left the Museum in August of that year. While still employed at the Museum Mr. Edwards took much interest in the question of a better supply of reading to the people. In 1847 he contributed a paper on "Libraries in London and Paris" to the *British Quarterly Review* (reprinted the same year), and in 1848 read a paper before the Statistical Society on Public Libraries in Europe and in America.[1] In the same year he printed privately "A Letter to the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Ellesmere on the Paucity of Libraries Freely Accessible to the People in the British Empire." In 1849, Mr. Ewart, M.P., obtained the appointment of a Select Committee on Public Libraries.[2] Mr. Edwards was the first witness examined by the Committee, and he furnished a very great amount of information in the form of statistical tables as to the libraries of Europe and America, which is to be found in the appendix to the report of the committee. Mr. Edwards' facts were somewhat sharply criticized by Mr. Thomas Watts in several letters to the *Athenæum* under the signature of "Verificator."

There can be no doubt that Mr. Edwards by the pains he took to collect information and to stimulate the public mind on the need for a provision of popular libraries, largely contributed to bring about the enactments which have since had such successful results. The present writer has certainly no desire to deprive Mr. Edwards of any portion of his just meed of honour. Mr. Edwards at one time appears to have thought so, and complained that his services in this matter had not been sufficiently acknowledged in the article on LIBRARIES in the new edition of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*. He announced in the prospectus, dated 1st December, 1884, of his intended new edition of the *Memoirs of Libraries* that it would contain "A Letter" to the writers of that article "*concerning some inaccuracies of Statement*, and, more particularly, *some omission of much needed* Statement (concerning the *Authorship*, *Inception*, and real *Origination* of the 'Public Libraries Act, 1850,' in their recent (viz. 1882) revision, enlargement, and (in very many particulars) great improvement of the present writer's article, 'LIBRARIES,' contributed by him in 1857 to the EIGHTH Edition of the 'ENCYCLOPAEDIA BRITANNICA,' and re-published (1884) in NINTH Edition of the same."

The suggestion made here that the article in the ninth edition of the *Encyclopaedia* is a mere re-edition of that in the eighth, is quite erroneous. As everybody knows, or ought to know, the new edition of the *Encyclopaedia* is not a mere revision of the former edition, but consists of entirely new articles, prepared in most cases by different writers. The authors of the article Libraries in particular did not even adopt the old foundation, but worked entirely *de novo*. However, it is not necessary to labour this point, as a comparison of the two articles will sufficiently dispose of the suggestion. As to the more serious matter—that we had done Mr. Edwards injustice—I assured

[1] *Journal*, xi. 250-281.

[2] *See* Hansard, March 15th, 1849.

him, in answer to his letter, that if there was any injustice it was quite involuntary, and that the rigid limitations imposed upon us in point of space had necessarily involved the omission of much historical matter. That this explanation did something, at all events, to satisfy Mr. Edwards it is satisfactory to know, and it may be worth while to set down some extracts from a letter which I afterwards received from him. It is dated 3rd June, 1885, and contains the following passages:—

"After much consideration (and after some printing, which will have to be cancelled), I have resolved to say what I have to say about *origination* of 'Public Libraries Act, 1850,' inaccurately, or, at least, insufficiently narrated, according to *my* contention, in your and Mr. Tedder's article 'Libraries' (Encyc. Brit., 1882) in my 'General Introduction' to M. L., Vol. I. ad finem, instead of making that statement a formal and express letter of strictures on your article appended to my said volume, as mentioned in prospectus, and to omit altogether other notice of what I conceive (humbly and respectfully) to be 'inaccuracies' in some other incidental parts (of your generally excellent article) than arises from my own statements, which conflict with yours and Mr. Tedder's statements. That I have really done my part respectfully, at least in purpose and intention, you will see from the enclosed paragraph, in which I thankfully acknowledge many obligations to you. . . . . I have, therefore, struck out from the copies of said prospectus which I have lately circulated the passage cancelled in the copy sent you herewith. That passage was far too strongly expressed, and I much regret that it was so. Although I cannot but feel as strongly now as ever before that a candid mention of the labours of the Public Libraries Committees of H. C., 1849 and 1850, and 1851 (I think) as leading potentially to the Act of 1850, and the subsequent Acts, was called for in your article, from the very nature of it, I believe there is not one word in the article as it stands about either of these Committees or about the evidence adduced before them. No man can possibly desire less than I do to detract in any way from the great credit due to Mr. Ewart, but what I say now in my 'Introduction' is but the needful extension of what I said in brief before the Committee of 1850."

Mr. Edwards' connexion with the movement for the extension of public libraries was not limited to the work he did in diffusing knowledge and in promoting legislation on the subject. When the Libraries Acts were adopted at Manchester in 1851, Mr. Edwards was appointed as the first librarian of the new institution, and Mr. Axon, who can speak with authority on this point, tells us that "there can be no doubt that the character of the collection owes very much to his enlightened views and scholarly tastes."[1] Unfortunately Mr. Edwards appears to have had something of the irritability that has since the days of Horace been recognized as characteristic of men of letters, and, after some years of hard work there, in 1858 he resigned his position.

While at Manchester he must have been busily engaged upon the great work which will be his chief monument, "Memoirs of Libraries, including a Handbook of Library Economy," which was printed by Brockhaus, at Leipzig, and published by Trübner in 1859. Its two volumes contain over a thousand pages, and form a great storehouse of information on the history of libraries and the art of librarianship. It was followed by "Libraries and the Founders of Libraries" (1865), "Free Town Libraries" (1869), and "Lives of the Founders of the British Museum" (2 vols., 1870). The proposed new edition of the "Memoirs of Libraries" would have included "all that may seem to be of permanent value" in these books, and was to have been "D.V. in *three* volumes, each containing on the average 66 sheets = 1,056 pages, or in the whole 3,168 pages, or thereabouts." Its preparation formed the occupation of Mr. Edwards in his retirement at Niton, in the Isle of Wight, from which place, it may be noticed, the second edition of his first publication was dated, in January, 1839. In the letter from which I have already quoted, he writes:—

"My health has much improved since my partial relaxation from work, and for a month

[1] *Manchester Guardian*, February 7th, 1886.

or two past I have been able to resume it very strenuously, and have made not a little progress with a very arduous task. Often I am at my writing-table at 6 A.M."

He was then 73 years of age, having been born in 1812.

It is perhaps doubtful whether this promised work will now be published, at all events in its entirety. Possibly there is not the same need in these days for such a work on such a scale, as when the first edition appeared and did its work in calling the attention of Englishmen to what had been done and was being done in library matters here and elsewhere. With the extension of libraries it is now much easier to get access to the numerous monographs which have been published on particular libraries, and the existence of several library journals now enables us to keep ourselves well informed on matters of current interest. Mr. Edwards, it must be admitted, was not a popular writer; his writings, with their elaboration of detail and their ponderousness of style, remind us of the scholars of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, who moved so easily amid those huge folios which an age of handbooks regards with so much awe—and leaves as undisturbed as if they were so many tombstones.

The literary labours of Mr. Edwards were not confined to the subject of libraries. He wrote many volumes on such diverse subjects as "Medals," "The Fine Arts in England," "Manchester Worthies and their Foundations," "Schemes for the Classification of Human Knowledge," "The Biographical History of the French Academy," "The Records of the Realm," "The Life of Sir Walter Ralegh," "An Account of Exmouth," and "The Literature of Biography." He appended to the prospectus already mentioned a list of "works by the same author," which seems, however, not to be quite complete. I hope in another number to furnish a full bibliographical list of his writings.

In consideration of his numerous works, and of the service rendered by them to the public, Mr. Gladstone in 1883 recommended Her Majesty to bestow a Civil List pension of £80. upon Mr. Edwards. Mr. Edwards who had, we understand, in early years been a somewhat enthusiastic Radical, became with advancing years anything but an admirer of Mr. Gladstone and his Government, and amongst the "works" recorded by himself are several "Letters of a Hampshire Conservative," reprinted from an Isle of Wight newspaper.

The later years of Mr. Edwards' life were spent in retirement, though from time to time he was engaged in library work, chiefly at Queen's College, Oxford. He was in Oxford in 1878, at the time of the annual meeting of the Library Association there, but could not be drawn from his seclusion. In May, 1882, however, he was glad to become an Honorary Member of the Association, and is still the only Englishman to whom this compliment has been paid. In a later edition of his prospectus—which I have seen in proof, though I do not know that it has been issued—he refers to the work of the Association, "which in so many ways has largely contributed to the increased efficiency of our Public Libraries, and has conspicuously promoted their varied interests."

Mr. Edwards died during sleep on the 7th of February. His name will always be associated by librarians, not only with the history and management of libraries, but with the great movement for the establishment of popular libraries, the full development of which none of us may live to see, but which has already done so much and is destined to do so much more in accomplishing the work of civilization.

The Library Chronicle.

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is issued on the 15th of the month, and communications, books for review, etc., intended for the forthcoming number should be addressed, not later than the 10th of the month, to the Hon. Editor,* ERNEST C. THOMAS, *care of Messrs. J. Davy & Sons, 137, Long Acre, W.C.*

The attention of librarians and library committees, of publishers and booksellers, is called to the advantages of the CHRONICLE *(which represents at least 300 libraries) as an advertising medium. Advertisements of Library Vacancies, and of Books Wanted, or Duplicates for Sale or Exchange by Libraries are inserted at low rates.*

Members of the Library Association whose subscription for the current year has been paid are entitled to receive the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association cannot be responsible for the views expressed by the contributors to the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association.

APRIL MONTHLY MEETING.

THE April Monthly Meeting was held in the Inner Temple Library on Friday, April 2nd, at 7.30. p.m., Mr. H. B. Wheatley in the chair. The following new Member was announced: Mr. Claud Lonsdale, Rose Hill, Carlisle.

Mr. J. E. L. Pickering read a Paper on "Electric Lighting" at the Inner Temple Library, and the members present inspected the arrangements for lighting, including the machinery. The Hon. Sec. exhibited some excerpts from the British Museum Catalogue, among which was the last published namely "Cicero." A Paper by Mr. C. W. Holgate on "The Free Public Library of Auckland, N. Z." was read by the Secretary. Votes of thanks were passed to the writers of the papers, and the proceedings concluded with a vote of thanks to the Treasurer of the Inner Temple (Mr. A. Staveley Hill, Q.C.) for his kind permission to meet in the library.

The May Monthly Meeting will be held at Gray's Inn Library on Friday, May 7th, at 7.30. p.m., when a Paper will be read by Dr. Richard Garnett on "Professor Dziatzko's Cataloguing Rules."

The next Examination of Library Assistants, will be held on the first Tuesday in July.

Library Notes and News.

HOME.

BELFAST.—The Free Public Library at Belfast is in course of erection. The Corporation have resolved to borrow £20,000 from the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland towards defraying the cost of building the Library. The accepted design appeared in *The Building News* for Nov. 30th, 1883.

DUMBARTON.—The Committee of the Free Public Library have had under their consideration a letter signed by several ratepayers asking that as the Catholics form a fourth of the ratepayers, the Committee should supply books, magazines and newspapers representing their views. The question has excited considerable interest, and as the Committee have for the present declined to accede to the request, the matter is expected to come up again. We should be glad if some of those librarians who may have had this question brought under their notice would communicate their experience to the Chronicle.

HAWICK.—The Public Library will next month be transferred to its permanent premises, being a portion of the new Municipal Buildings, when we hope to be able to give an account of them.

BRADFORD.—There is at present on view at the Free Library Museum an interesting loan-collection of objects which were formerly in the possession of the Brontë family. Mr. S. Waterhouse has presented to the Museum Charlotte Brontë's wedding shawl. Those lent by Mr. A. Gledhill, of Keighley, comprise a jewel case, brooch, cream jug, the Rev. P. Brontë's snuff-box, a presentation copy of 'Jane Eyre,' with the autograph of the authoress; three water-colour drawings by the same hand, including a sketch of Charlotte's favourite dog, Floss, which as a work of art is the best example in the collection; nineteen pencil drawings by various members of the family; a deed of gift from Mr. Brontë to his servant, Martha Brown, and others. Mr. Jennings has also procured from Miss Binns two letters written by Mrs. Gaskell to Martha Brown; a jet necklace belonging to Charlotte Brontë; a brooch containing a lock of her hair; funeral cards of Charlotte, Branwell and Emily Brontë, &c.; and he has lent a presentation copy

of 'Shirley' containing the autograph of the authoress. Mr. T. T. Empsall also lends a drawing by Charlotte Brontë; a letter from her to Martha Brown; a small teapot; a pair of shoes worn by Charlotte, and the Rev. P. Brontë's spectacles. Mr. W. Scruton has lent towards the exhibition an album containing a lock of Charlotte Brontë's hair; an autograph letter from Charlotte to Miss Nussey, of Birstall (the Caroline Helstone of 'Shirley'), also portraits of Miss Nussey and Martha Brown. Mr. J. H. Widdop has forwarded for exhibition the scales used by Mr. Brontë for weighing coin; a letter from Mr. Brontë to Nancy Garrs (Charlotte Brontë's nurse, who was interred yesterday); a portrait of the Rev. P. Brontë, and photographs of Haworth Church and Parsonage. Mr. F. Holroyd, of Keighley, adds to the collection a portrait in oil of the Rev. Patrick Brontë, by his son, Branwell.

LEEDS.—*The Leeds Mercury Weekly Supplement* of April 10th, contains a report of a lecture delivered before the Leeds Co-operative and Industrial Society, by Mr. J. Y. W. MacAlister on "Our Best Friends—Books."

LONDON: BETHNAL GREEN.—At a meeting held to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Bethnal Green Free Library, on March 31st, the Attorney-General (Sir Charles Russell) in the chair, it was announced that there were now 32,000 volumes on the shelves.

NEWCASTLE.—*The Newcastle Daily Leader* of April 6th has a special article calling attention to the demand for more accommodation in the Public Library. It is suggested that the adjoining building of the old Mechanics' Institute—at present devoted to Science and Art classes under the control of the Public Library Committee—might be utilized for the purpose; and that a fund of some £1,200 left some thirty years ago by Richard Thompson for public purposes, including prizes for oratory, might also be usefully devoted to the purposes of the library.

RIPLEY.—A free-reading room for the use of the navvies at Ripley was opened at the Public Hall, on Monday, March 29th.

WORCESTER.—From a list of the most popular books at the Free Public Library published in a local paper, we learn that the most popular books in the last year were in fiction 'John Halifax' and 'It's Never too late to Mend,' and in "other departments" Mark Twain's 'Tramp Abroad' and Bell's 'Elocutionist.'

FOREIGN.

CINCINNATI.—The death is reported of the Cincinnati 'newsboy' John King, who in 1879 presented a collection of 2,700 volumes to the Public Library, all of which had been purchased by himself.

PHILADELPHIA.—The question of establishing a Free Public Library in Philadelphia is again being agitated. The chairman of the Apprentices' Library suggests that that library, which is already practically free and used by all classes, would if properly supported rival the free libraries of other American cities.

WASHINGTON.—The bill providing funds for a new building for the Library of Congress has at last, after numerous postponements and delays, passed both Houses and gone to the President, and the national collection will, it is to be hoped, at length have a fitting home. It is proposed to expend three million dollars upon the building, and we are glad to notice that the American press demand that the architect shall be duly subordinated to the librarian in the building arrangements. The *New York Tribune* says, "When the claims of the library have been fully met, it will be time enough to think of the outside appearance of the building, and it is to be hoped that utility will govern the work from beginning to end."

Mr. W. Downing of Birmingham suggests that it would be very desirable to have a list of the special collections which are being formed in the various Public Libraries of the country, and that the materials for such a list might soon be collected, if librarians would send a notice of such collections as are contained in their libraries to the LIBRARY CHRONICLE. We shall be very happy to receive such notices and to record them in our pages.

Library Catalogues and Reports.

Catalogue of Books for the Young added to the Birkenhead Free Public Library during the years 1882 to 1885. * * * Birkenhead...1886, pp. 36.

This is a very neatly got up little catalogue of nearly 800 vols., arranged under author and title. The works have been judiciously selected.

Borough of Nottingham. Free Public Libraries. Class List (No. 7) of Books in the Reference Library...Sociology. [Compiled by] J. Potter Briscoe, Principal Librarian, [and] John J. Ogle, Assistant Librarian. Nottingham,...March, 1886. 8vo., pp. 64. 5d.

Arranged alphabetically under the names of the authors, with cross-references to their alphabetical arrangement, in ten sections—Commerce, Education, Emigration and Colonial Affairs, Jurisprudence and Law, Political Economy and Finance, Politics, Public Health, Social Movements, Sociology (general), and Statistics. The contents of collections are carefully set out.

Borough of Birmingham. * * * The Twenty-fourth Annual Report of the Free Libraries Committee. On the year 1885....8vo, pp. 44.

Additional rooms have been acquired, and the Art Collections removed to the new Museum and Art Gallery. Since September 1882, there were 1,059,527 visits paid to the Art Collections. The Libraries comprise 133,475 vols., of which 80,000 are in the Reference Library, and the remaining 55,475 vols. in the five Lending Libraries. The Shakespeare Memorial Library numbers 6,949 vols. The issues for the year were 843,791—59,030 more than in 1884. The daily average issue was 2,566, of which 1008 were from the Reference Library, 812 from the Central Lending Library, and 746 from the four Branch Libraries. There was a daily average issue of 581 on Sundays. 18,336 Specifications of Patents were consulted during the year. At the close of the year there were 19,706 borrowers' tickets in force : 12,057 of which were at the Central Lending Library. The Borough rate of 1·41d. realised £9,542, which with other receipts brought up the income for the year to £10,328.

Cardiff Free Library. Catalogue of Books in the Lending Library suitable for boys and girls. Compiled by John Ballinger, Chief Librarian. Cardiff...1886. Price One Penny. 8vo, pp. 23.

This is a practical outcome of Mr. Briscoe's paper read at the Plymouth Meeting. The works are catalogued under author and title ; and the Catalogue is printed in double columns. The young people and parents of Cardiff will appreciate Mr. Ballinger's services in this direction.

Thirty-third Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Public Library, Museum, and Walker Art Gallery of the City of Liverpool. Liverpool....1886. 8vo, pp. 36.

The whole of the site is now occupied by the Brown Library, the Derby and Mayer Museums, and the Walker Art Gallery. Every department is pressing for increased accommodation. The Branch Evening Reading Rooms established last year were visited by 230 persons each night. The Free Lectures were eminently useful, the Winter Lectures having an average attendance of 1,315. Eighteen cabinets lent to the Public Elementary Schools were found exceedingly attractive. During the year 3,555 vols. were added to the Reference Library, bringing up the stock to 86,429. There were 650,152 vols. issued, being a daily average issue of 2,316, of which 1,599 were works of prose fiction and miscellaneous literature. Current periodicals are now placed upon the tables. The daily average consultation of specifications of patents was 58. The donations received were numerous and valuable. The two Lending Libraries received 1,304 additional vols., making a total of 45,847 vols. ; the issues therefrom amounted to 383,128 vols. ; and the number of readers on the books was 8,494, of which 4,153 were added during the year. Forty vols. were paid for, and 6 lost. 1,485 vols. were replaced. More than 76 per cent. of the issues were fiction. At the Museum there was a daily average attendance of 1,522 ; and at the Art Gallery of 1,782. There were 1,462 pictures and works of art exhibited. The total receipts from the Autumn Exhibition of Pictures realized £3,011 against £4,315 in 1884. During the last fifteen years the Corporation of Liverpool have purchased 55 pictures for their permanent Gallery, the catalogue prices of which amounted to £20,709 10s.

City of Norwich. Annual Report of the Free Library Committee to the Town Council. 1885. Norwich....8vo., pp. 18.

The Women's Reading Room, which was open nine months, received 13,943 visits. The additions to the Lending Library stock numbered 1,206 vols. The total stock is 9,904 vols. The small collection of musical works was well used. 1,488 vols. were bound or repaired. There were 1,034 borrowers enrolled. The issues were 66,003 (representing 72,310 vols.) being a daily average issue of 277. The Reference Library contains 2,541 vols. and 1,151 pamphlets, of which 753 vols. and 1,337 are of local interest. The total receipts were £1,410. The comparative statistics are inaccurate in several particulars, and strikingly incomplete.

Forty-eighth Annual Report of the Nottingham Mechanics' Institution, adopted at the Annual General Meeting of Members, January 29th, 1886. Nottingham...1886. 8vo, pp. 17.

The total receipts were £2,410 against £2,187 in the preceding year. Coffee Room arrangements were much improved. Fourteen lectures were given, resulting in a loss of £22. For hire of halls and rooms the Committee received £1,158. Mr. Paget provided 60 free memberships. New bye-laws were adopted. There was an increase on the year of 214 ordinary and 13 honorary members. The number of members now is 3,141. To the Library there were added 1,020 vols. (924 purchased and 96 presented), making a total stock of 15,510. The issues were 66,865. 246 newspapers and periodicals were supplied. The building was put in an excellent state of repair. Classes in cooking, dressmaking, and in French were held. The Chess Club numbers 74 members. The total receipts were £2,411, and the balance due to the Treasurer is £1,839.

The Seventh Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Public Library and Museum of the Borough of Preston for the year ending December 31st, 1885. Preston.... 8vo., pp. 19.

Numerous gifts are recorded. 1,115 vols. were added. The present stock is 13,380 vols. For home reading there were 110,446 vols. issued—a daily average issue of 383 vols. 1,130 borrowers' tickets were issued. The Museum was visited by 20,154 persons; the Picture Gallery by 10,603; and the Observatory by 840. The turnover of stock was 8·3, but that of fiction alone was 22·2.

Borough of Salford. Thirty-seventh Annual Report of the Museum, Libraries, and Parks Committee, 1884-85. Salford, [n.d.] 8vo., pp. 32.

At least 2,000 persons attend daily to read newspapers. The four Lending Libraries comprise 40,302 vols., and the Reference Library 40,049. The issues were 319,701 vols. against 322,123 in 1884. The 1d. in the pound rate is reported as inadequate to meet the requirements of the Committee. 435,000 visits were made to the Museum and Art Galleries, a daily average of 1,696, against 1,775 in 1884. The additions to the Galleries and Museums by purchase were very limited. The Committee report with deep regret the death of Alderman Thomas Davies, who was Chairman for fourteen years (1870-1885). Five popular Lectures were delivered in the Library. Since the establishment of the institution 7,019,248 vols. have been referred to, and more than 5,000,000 borrowed for home reading. Seventeen millions and a half visitors attended the Museum. Gifts in money, paintings, specimens, and books are valued at £60,000.

Sixteenth Annual Report of the Wolverhampton Free Library Committee.... Wolverhampton....Folio, pp. 8.

The stock of the Lending Library is 22,534 vols., and the issues therefrom were 46,183 vols., or fewer by 2,377 vols. than last reported. The issue of fiction declined to the extent of 3,840 vols. This decrease is owing to the bad condition of popular books which for want of funds have not been replaced, and to the poor supply of new books. The fines realized £40 7s. 11d. There were 6,011 vols. issued in the Reference Library, a very slight increase over the previous year's work. The stock is 4,337 vols. The Museum has been enlarged and rearranged. Portraits of distinguished local men are being collected. The attendance at the Lectures on Saturday evenings improved during the year. The work of the Evening Classes was highly successful. The Art Gallery and the new School of Art are now under the control of the Library Committee.

Record of Bibliography and Library Literature.

A descriptive Catalogue of the Government publications of the United States, September 5, 1774—March 4, 1881. Compiled by order of Congress by Ben: Perley Poore, Clerk of printing records. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1885. 4to., pp. iv. 1392.

The present volume has been prepared by the editor and a staff of fourteen assistants, who have been at work upon it since the 1st of March, 1883. It consists of two parts, first a descriptive catalogue of all the separate publications in chronological order with a very brief abstract of their contents, and secondly a very elaborate index occupying 444 columns. The work is calculated to be of great service to wanderers in the wilderness of official documents.

Bibliographie italico-française universelle ou catalogue methodique de tous les imprimés en langue française sur l'Italie ancienne et moderne dépuis l'origine de l'imprimerie. 1475—1885. Par Joseph Blanc, ancien libraire. I. Rome, Église, Italie. Paris: H. Welter, 1886. 8vo, pp. iv. 1038 (coll.)

This is the first volume of a bibliography of all books published in French relating to Italy, including translations of works published in Italy or elsewhere. The main divisions of Rome (i. e. ancient Rome). The temporal history of the Church and modern Italy are divided into 25 classes or chapters. The second volume will include translations and articles in periodicals followed by chronological and alphabetical indexes. When this appears we shall notice the work more fully.

Instruction für die Ordnung der Titel im Alphabetischen Zettelkatalog der königlichen und Universitäts-Bibliothek zu Breslau ausgearbeitet von Dr. Carl Dziatzko, Oberbibliothekar. Berlin: Asher, 1886. 8vo, pp. xii. 74.

Prof. Dziatzko who is well known to our members for the interest he has always taken in our proceedings and for his knowledge of English library methods has published the rules which he has laid down for the preparation of the alphabetical card catalogue of the library of which he is in charge, introduced by some general remarks and a list of the literature of the subject, and followed by an alphabetical index. We are glad to know that Dr. Garnett proposes to give a fuller notice of Prof. Dziatzko's work.

We have received from Mr. Redway "Essays in the Study of Folk-Songs" by the Countess Evelyn Martinengo Cesaresco (1886: 8vo, pp. xl. 395), a dainty volume including a number of reprinted contributions to various magazines. At the end is a useful list of books upon the subject.

Part III. of *Mittheilungen aus der Statbibliothek zu Hamburg*, edited by F. Eyssenhardt, contains some notices of Hamburg in the last century from the *Nachrichten* of an Englishman, and under the title 'Analecta Anglica,' two petitions of Marc Meibomius in 1676-7 to the Corporation of London and to Parliament, that he might have leave to demonstrate an invention for extinguishing fires. Under the title of 'Analecta Hispanica' is printed a relation of the case of San Placido before the inquisitors of Toledo.

The *Freeman's Journal* has published an article on "The Best Hundred Irish Books," some extracts from which may be found in the *Pall Mall Gazette* of March 25th.

We have received from Herr P. E. Richter, Secretary of the Royal Public Library at Dresden, the list of accessions to the Library for 1885 (large 8vo, double columns, pp. 70) prepared with his usual care and accompanied by a classified Index.

The library of Mr. Edward Solly, whose death took place on the 2nd of April, is said to have contained 40,000 vols. His knowledge of 18th century literature was singularly minute.

The last published "Excerpt" from the British Museum Catalogue is devoted to Cicero and extends to 134 columns.

In the "Booksellers' Circular," a department of the *British and Colonial Printer and Stationer*, for April 8th, the suggestion is renewed for the formation of a new Society to deal with the information contained in old periodicals. The Society, it is further suggested, should try "to examine, if not to secure copies of all magazines previous to 1750, leaving the far larger task 1751-1800 to a later period." We hope that if such a Society is started, it will take care to reproduce the matter of the old magazines with more correctness than Mr. Elliot Stock has attained in dealing with the *Gentleman's Magazine*.

We may call attention to the fact that Mr. W. D. Jeremy's careful and excellent book on "The Presbyterian Fund and Dr. Daniel Williams's Trust" (Williams & Norgate, 1885 : 8vo. pp. xii. 252) contains valuable and interesting notices (see especially pp. 91-94) of Dr. Williams's Library, which for so long a period formed the headquarters of the 'Three Denominations.' The biographical notes which form the substance of the work should be very useful to cataloguers who have to deal with Nonconformist literature.

Mr. W. R. Douthwaite's book on "Gray's Inn: its History and Associations, compiled from original and unpublished documents" (London: Reeves & Turner, 1886 : 8vo. pp. xxiii. 283) is a charming volume which should require no commendation to our readers. Its author has spared no pains in tracing out the history of the ancient Society and its habitation, and the result is worthy of the loving labour he has bestowed. The book is handsomely printed, and is adorned with seven illustrations. Those of the Hall and its Carved Screen will recall to many of our members some pleasant hours spent under its friendly roof in 1881. We are here chiefly concerned with the account given by Mr. Douthwaite of the history of the Library (pp. 171-182), and of some of the curious books which illustrate what may be called the bibliography of Gray's Inn, and particularly the 'Gesta Grayorum' (p. 227) and the 'Maske of Flowers' (p. 232). But the book is full of new materials throwing light on the history of the Inn and of the many eminent men who have belonged to it.

On March 15th, Mr. W. G. B. Page, of the Subscription Library, Hull, read a paper on "The Booksellers' signs of London" before the members of the Hull Literary Club. The lecturer traced the history of signboards generally, giving an account of those which were used by the ancient Egyptians, by the shopkeepers in Greece, Pompeii, Herculaneum, and Rome. He then treated specially of the booksellers' signs of London, which he said dated back to the time of Wynkyn de Worde, the assistant and successor of William Caxton, England's first printer, at Westminster, who removed to the sign of the "Golden Sun, in Flete Strete, in 1497," and the "Holy Trinity, St. Paul's Churchyard, 1505," was the sign of Henry Pepwell. After this he passed on to give an account of "The Crown, St. Paul's Churchyard," which was the shop, from 1585 until 1655, of Simon Waterson, John Waterson, and John Williams, respectively; also of "The Lamb," "The Rose," and "The Ship" in Paternoster Row. The latter was the shop, from 1712-1728, of William Taylor, who published the second, third and fourth editions of "Robinson Crusoe," and was succeeded in 1728 by John Osborne, who in 1729, took into partnership Mr. Thomas Longman, and from that time to the present there has always been a member of the Longman family connected with the business, which is now carried on in the same shop. Mr. Page then spoke of the punning signs, such as J. Buckland at the "Buck," William Hill at the "Hill," J. Drinkwater at the "Fountain." J. Hind at the "Golden Hind," and many others. The signs in Grub Street were next mentioned, together with an account of the notable residents who lived in that street, such as General Monk, in Hanover Square; J. Foxe, author of the *Book of Martyrs;* J. Speed, the historian; J. Hoole, the translator of Tasso's *Jerusalem Delivered*, and Ariosto's *Orlando Furioso*.

It may be of interest to notice in connection with Mr. Magnússon's plan of a library building, to which we have already called attention, that the idea of *a series of concentric galleries*, to be constructed as time and circumstances might require, behind

a suitable façade, was submitted to Sir Robert Peel somewhere about 1850. This we learn from an article in the *Quarterly Review* (for Dec. 1852; vol. xcii, at p.161), where it is stated that the late Mr. Fergusson saw a room, or series of rooms, at Mr. Marshall's mills at Leeds, constructed on something of this principle, and recommended it as the best and cheapest plan for a largely increasing library. We should be glad to have fuller information as to the rooms at Mr. Marshall's mills, if some kindly correspondent from Leeds will undertake to enlighten us. The question of the best plan for the accommodation of a large and continually increasing collection is becoming more and more important. It will have to be considered by the United States now that it has been determined to provide a new building for the National Library, and we shall look with much interest to the way in which our American cousins will deal with the problem.

Notes and Queries.

ANONYM.—The author of *How to be Happy though Married*, by "a graduate of the University of Matrimony," (1886) is Mr. E. J. Hardy. J. P. B.

LIBRARY BUILDINGS. Drawings of buildings designed for library purposes have from time to time appeared in architectural and building journals. I append particulars of several in the hope that other readers of our *Chronicle* will add to them:—Free Public Library, Belfast, *Building News*, November 30th, 1883, another *The Architect*, December 13th, 1884, another *The Builder*, February 16th, 1884: Reading Room of Free Library, Leeds, *The Builder*, August 23rd, 1884: Free Public Library, Wimbledon, *The Builder*, December 12th, 1885, also in *Surrey Independent*: Free Library, &c., at Newcastle-under-Lyne, *The Building News*, July 3rd, 1885: National Museum and Library, Dublin, *The Building News*, June 5th, 1885. J. P. B.

Correspondence.

STATISTICS! STATISTICS!! STATISTICS!!!

SIR,—Some of my respected co-librarians are greedy of statistics, and one or two important librarians seem never weary of sending out applications for long series of statistics from other libraries with a view to make comparisons (more or less disparaging to the other libraries) and glorifying to their own.

Surely they might get the materials for their fallacious and malodorous comparisons from the published reports of the libraries they wish to disparage, and not have the unconscionable hardihood to ask other institutions to provide them with special and costly returns, adapted to their desires, fancies and periods.

The principal libraries appear to be content to publish their own returns, and let them tell their story without incomparable comparison with other peoples'.

Yours respectfully,

STATISTICS.

Printed and published for the Library Association of the United Kingdom by J. DAVY & SONS, *at the Dryden Press*, 137, *Long Acre, London. Annual Subscription, post free*, 8*s*.

The Library Chronicle.

IN MEMORIAM—HENRY STEVENS, F.S.A.[1]

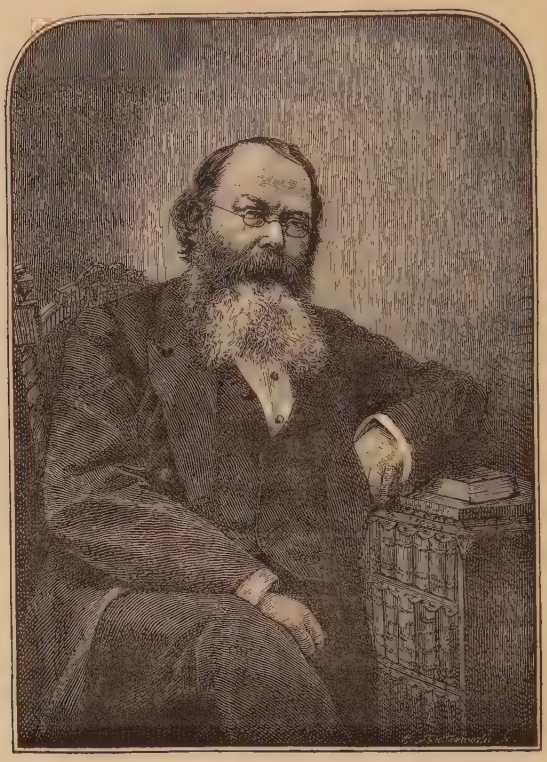
By R. Garnett, LL.D.

WITH the exception of the death of the late Henry Bradshaw, taken away so nearly at the same time, the Library Association could have sustained no loss more sincerely regarded by its members in the light of a personal bereavement than that which it has suffered by the death of Henry Stevens, on February 28th. Mr. Stevens's interest in the Association had been so warm, his counsel so valuable, his genial presence and witty discourse such recognised features of attraction at its gatherings, that his loss must be felt as one almost impossible to supply. It must be long indeed before any one can fill Mr. Stevens's place as a link between the librarians of Europe and America, and it may be much longer yet before the happy union of bibliographical attainments with social qualities is witnessed to a like extent in the same individual.

Henry Stevens was born August 24th, 1819, at Barnet, Vermont, U.S., hence the initials, G.M.B. (Green Mountain Boy), prized by him, there is reason to surmise, above his academical and antiquarian distinctions. He was sixth in descent from Cyprian Stevens, who had emigrated in the days of Charles I. The family came originally from Devonshire. It had had its share of colonial celebrity and adventure; one ancestor had successfully defended a fort against the French; another had been stolen by the Indians, and ransomed for a pony. After receiving a fair ordinary education at the school of his native village, and two local seminaries, Mr. Stevens, at the age of seventeen, began to teach with a view of obtaining means to take him to college. He received from 12 to 16 dollars a month, boarding with his pupils' families, "three days to a scholar except when the girls were pretty, and in that case four." In October, 1838, he proceeded to Middlebury College, defraying his travelling expenses by peddling cheeses, contributed for that purpose by his excellent mother. His father, a man of literary tastes and culture, founder and President of the Vermont Historical and Antiquarian Society, seems to have been always behind-hand with the world, and to have been unable to aid his son to any material extent. It was customary for students thus destitute of support from home to defray their

[1] We have to thank Mr. H. N. Stevens for his kind permission to insert the portrait, from a photograph taken by himself.—Ed.

college expenses by teaching in the winter months. Stevens obtained leave to try his fortune at Washington, relying on the patronage of Governor Henry Hubbard, then Senator for New Hampshire. He called upon him accordingly, and though he was a Whig and the Senator a Democrat, he found himself as if by magic, clerk in the Treasury Department "in charge of the records and correspondence of the Revenue Cutter Service," with a salary of a thousand dollars a year. He was soon afterwards transferred to a clerkship in the Senate, where after a while he was employed as clerk to the Senate branch of the Joint Committee of the Congress for investigating the claims of Messrs. Clark and Force under a contract for publishing the American Archives, which it was desired to terminate. Much time and labour had been expended



upon the volumes already printed, but it was generally surmised that the contract would be broken, because, as a Democrat remarked, "it would cost more than the building of the Capitol, and, what was worse, both the editor and the printer were Whigs." The committee, who seem to have had no taste for literary drudgery, turned the task of digesting the papers entirely over to Mr. Stevens, who on his part, finding the documents entrusted to him insufficient, scraped acquaintance with Colonel Peter Force himself, and extracted abundant information from him without divulging his official position. At length the digest was ready, and the Committee, convoked for the purpose, heard their officer read the whole, up to the entirely unexpected and unwelcome conclusion, "Resolved, that this contract cannot be broken." Stevens was severely taken to task for his presumption, when Daniel Webster, a member of the Committee, interfered on

his behalf, and advocated his view with such effect that "the Committee was discharged from further consideration of the subject." The contract was shortly afterwards rescinded. The service Stevens had nevertheless rendered to Force had an important influence on his subsequent career. Quitting Washington, as he had always intended to do, and repairing to complete his education at Yale College, he took with him a commission from the Colonel to collect books, pamphlets, and MSS. in aid of the American Archives, which not only helped to provide the expenses of his University course, but endowed him with knowledge, tastes, and aptitudes qualifying him for future eminence as bookhunter and bookseller. Another main source of income was his fine penmanship, both as transcriber and teacher. He took his B.A. degree in 1843, and in 1843-44 studied law at Harvard under Justice Story, continuing to act as agent for Col. Force, and forming connections with other collectors. At length, in 1845, he determined to visit England on literary errands, not expecting to be absent more than one or two years. Fortified by introductions from Francis Parkman and Jared Sparks, he took his departure, and in July, 1845, found himself at the North and South American Coffee House, the bearer of a huge bag of despatches for the United States Minister, Mr. Everett, and of a tiny one of forty sovereigns of his own. Mr. Everett's influence opened the State Paper Office to him; and ere the sun set on his first day in London he had visited the four great second-hand dealers of the day, Rodd, Thorpe, Pickering and Rich. The last-named had just acquired the valuable library of M. Ternaux-Compans, and Mr. Stevens immediately purchased £800 worth on behalf of Mr. John Carter Brown, of Providence, Rhode Island, from whom he had a general commission to forage, and who showed wisdom as well as spirit in ratifying his agent's decided action. Those were the golden days of speculation in books relating to America, when rarities could be obtained for hardly more shillings than they now cost pounds. Mr. Stevens probably contributed more than any other man to terminate this happy state of things. While on the one hand he ransacked the chief European capitals as agent for wealthy American collectors, on the other he drained America on behalf of the British Museum, then for the first time entering into the market to any considerable extent. Mr. Panizzi had just prepared his celebrated report on the deficiencies of the Museum Library, in which he had said:—"The expense requisite for accomplishing what is here suggested: that is, for forming in a few years a public library containing from 600,000 to 700,000 printed volumes, giving the necessary information on all branches of human learning, from all countries, in all languages, properly arranged, substantially and well bound, minutely and fully catalogued, easily accessible and yet safely preserved, capable for some years to come of keeping pace with the increase of human knowledge, will no doubt be great; but so is the nation which is to bear it. What might be extravagant and preposterous to suggest to one country may be looked upon not only as moderate, but as indispensable in another." With such views on Panizzi's part, he and Stevens were fortunately encountered. Ere they had been long acquainted, a proposal came from the former, that Stevens should undertake the agency for the supply of American books. Stevens at first hesitated; he had not contemplated remaining in Europe. He soon saw his way to accept it, and, in his words, "an exodus of American books to the British Museum commenced that has not ceased to the present time."

It would be impossible within the limits of this notice to enumerate all the important transactions in which Mr. Stevens was engaged, or the numerous instances

in which his ready and inventive intellect was exerted for the furtherance of bibliography. One of his most important enterprises was the purchase of Humboldt's library, which resulted in disappointment The Civil War supervening, his American patrons "shut up like clam shells," and most of the books were ultimately destroyed by fire while warehoused in London. A portion, however, had been previously separated, and the British Museum possesses numerous presentation copies to Humboldt, with the autographs of the authors. Members of the Library Association who were present at the Liverpool meeting will long remember Mr. Stevens's humorous account of his dealings with Mr. Peabody, and of his dismay when the collection formed by the philanthropist for presentation to his native town, at an average cost of one shilling a volume, was described in the local paper as the special selection of that intelligent bibliographer, Henry Stevens, Esq. Mr. Stevens's relations with the most important of all his customers, Mr. James Lenox, have been so recently detailed to the Association, that it is needless to do more than allude to his narrative as one of the most racy of literary monographs, affording an excellent idea of the writer's quaint, shrewd, and anecdotical conversation. It has been republished by his son in an elegant volume. Another remarkable passage in his life was his active share in originating and organising the Bible department of the Caxton Exhibition, when he propounded views respecting Miles Coverdale which involved him in many a polemic, and devised for the two different recensions of the Bible of 1611 the appellations of "Great He" and "Great She" Bible, which they seem likely to retain. The most interesting, perhaps, of all Mr. Stevens's achievements was his redemption of Franklin's MSS. from oblivion. Bequeathed by Franklin to his grandson, they had been only partially published, after a long delay and with suppressions which exposed William Temple Franklin to the unjust imputation of having disposed of a great part of them to the British Government. In fact they had been put aside and forgotten after Temple Franklin's death in Paris, and had eventually come into the possession of an old friend of his who repeatedly offered them for sale, but could find no customer, from the universal belief that they had already been printed and published. Mr. Stevens acquired them in 1851, and after thirty years' delay, and spending a thousand pounds over and above the original price in cataloguing, binding, and adding to their number, ultimately disposed of them to the United States Government. Their eventful history, involving a complete vindication of Temple Franklin and of the British Government, is told in a privately printed volume of his own, accompanied with beautifully engraved portraits and a valuable bibliography of books by and concerning Franklin. The collection is also the subject of an article in *The Century* for June, 1886.

Notwithstanding the engrossing nature of his business pursuits, Mr. Stevens was always striving to aid bibliography by his pen. For this, in addition to his knowledge and acumen, and a cultivated taste which served him admirably on questions of typography, he possessed the qualifications of untiring industry and great facility of composition. He did much, and would have done more but for the sanguine temper which led him to undertake more than he could complete and the fastidiousness which indisposed him to let work go out of his hands while anything seemed lacking to perfection. He left several bibliographical or biographical memoirs wanting hardly anything of completeness but the final imprimatur. Among them may be mentioned a life of Thomas Heriot, the mathematician, and a friend of Ralegh; an essay on

Columbus's administration in the West Indies; and an account of the newly discovered globe, by John Schöner. Another work of which he frequently spoke, a volume of British Museum reminiscences supplementary to Mr. Fagan's life of Sir Anthony Panizzi, existed, it must be feared, only as a project. It would have required leisure which he never possessed. The most purely literary and perhaps the most important of his publications was his *Historical and Geographical Notes on the earliest discoveries in America*, a subject on which he was most enthusiastic. His catalogue of the American literature in the British Museum to the year 1856 is also a valuable publication, as are likewise his *Bibles in the Caxton Exhibition*, already mentioned, and his catalogues of the bibliographical curiosities relating to America in his own possession, issued under the title of *Historical Nuggets* in 1862. A second series was in course of publication at his death. He had devoted great attention to the reproduction of title-pages and frontispieces by photography and photo-gravure. His admirable paper on the subject, read in 1877, will be fresh in the memory of members of the Association, as also the companion essay entitled "Who spoils our English Books?" read at the Cambridge meeting, a characteristic example of his humorous manner, not intended to be taken quite *au pied de la lettre*. His letters from Europe to his father are, we trust, destined to see the light. He was a frequent contributor to the *Athenæum*, especially on the history of the English Bible and early discovery in America, and his communications were always highly valued.

It is unnecessary to enter at great length into Mr. Stevens's personal character when addressing a public to most of whom he was personally known. Perhaps his most distinguishing characteristic was his eminent large-heartedness. He had room in his mind for every individual and every interest. He was cheerful, genial, expansive, and preserved his buoyancy of spirit under circumstances the most trying and vexatious. He possessed great sweetness as well as great liberality of disposition; his combativeness was devoid of every particle of rancour; shrewd and crafty, he was yet open and candid. Intent, as he could not help being, on his own advantage as a trader, the interests of his customer had a very definite place in his mind. He worked for his patrons even more than for himself, and prided himself more upon having made another man's library than he would have done upon having made his own fortune. As a man of business, his principal defect was an over-sanguine temper; the spring, nevertheless, of his enterprise, and hence of his success. "Si non errasset fecerat ille minus."

Mr. Stevens died of a general decay of constitution resulting in dropsy, against which his vigorous constitution and indomitable cheerfulness contended with great hope of success to the very last. He had been married for upwards of thirty years to a highly accomplished lady, whose daughter by a former marriage is the widow of Mr. Hawker, the celebrated Vicar of Morwenstow. His son, Mr. H. N. Stevens, succeeds to the direction of his business, and inherits his literary and bibliographical tastes.

THE PRINTING OF LIBRARY CATALOGUES.

By William May, Librarian, Free Public Library, Birkenhead.[1]

In approaching the subject of printing library catalogues, I am aware that I am treading on ground which is very practical and familiar to librarians. As it is likely, in treating of such a subject, that remarks may possibly be taken to refer to specific catalogues or particular libraries, I would thus early ask you to believe that in no case have I a special library or catalogue in view, so that comparisons or reflections are far from my intentions.

It is now a generally accepted condition that for the knowledge a library contains to prove of general utility to the public it must first possess a catalogue of its contents, and, secondly, that such catalogue should be a printed one. All that can be said to impress upon the public and their librarians the value of printed catalogues has been so often said that no apology need be made in saying it finds no place in this communication.

I have examined, during a period almost entirely devoted to cataloguing, the printed catalogues of a large number of the public libraries of this country, and I have found that the charge of wastefulness in printing has been the commonest drawback to the majority of them. Exactitude in compilation, and precision in seeing through the press, are generally observed recommendations, but economy in printing is one item, I have an inclination to assume, frequently overlooked.

The desire to be original, or, rather, to do something different to what has before been done by others, is the source of many typographical eccentricities that one meets in the catalogues of some libraries, and in these cases the natural result is a printing expenditure as extravagant as it is unjustifiable and indefensible.

To libraries of slender means—and in this category by far the majority of our public libraries may be included—the best advice that can be given, and stress laid upon such advice, is not to attempt or emulate or rival the performances of the larger and richer libraries. In our larger libraries, possessed of incomes admitting of such, the catalogues may be of an elaborate and type-absorbing character, and the funds at their disposal for printing may rightly admit of the insertion of many different founts of type, and perhaps they are looked upon and expected to do something in the printing of their catalogues commensurate with their importance as leading institutions of their class.

But to our smaller libraries the expenditure on such superior examples of catalogue printing is beyond their legitimate means, nor, in fact, is it at all necessary. All that such libraries may be expected to perform is to catalogue truly well and economically, and then print under rules of a like character.

One of the commonest and most fertile sources of extravagance noticeable in the so-called dictionary form of catalogue is the unnecessary entries that are made for many books. Title-entries of no use, plural subject works, entered under their many particular subjects, when a comprehensive subject word exists in the same alphabet, and many other forms of undue expansion that may more properly be dealt with in cautions against over-cataloguing than included under the title given to this paper.

Another source of questionable addition to the expense of the catalogue is the

[1] Read at the Plymouth Meeting, 1885.

number of useless *contents* that are frequently given. We may easily be permitted to doubt if it is serving any useful purpose in giving columns of contents of obsolete scientific works where, scarce as their use is, scarcer still are the times that the contents as given are of any practical service to those consulting the catalogue. I have in mind catalogues giving the contents of long series of magazines, reviews, &c., in the numerical sequence of their volumes; other catalogues, where from, say the *Contemporary Review*, *Nineteenth Century*, and similar reviews, some half-dozen selected articles from perhaps forty or fifty in each volume, appear as the contents. Can it be proved that these vagaries in lists of contents have that practical usefulness in the hands of readers to warrant the expenditure created: or it may be asked by what principle of selection some half-dozen articles in a volume containing perhaps ten times that number are detected as being the most useful to enumerate in the catalogue? Better to give none at all than such crippled lists. All these evils create food for the catalogue to thrive upon as a printer's income. By such wasteful energy we see catalogues of 250 pages, which rightly ought to assume no greater bulk than 150 or 200 pages.

Where it is feared that the subjects of papers contained in series of volumes or collective works may be lost to the readers of a library if not contained in its catalogue, would it not be better for the library of small means to secure those catalogues of our larger libraries that have so thoroughly and scientifically set out and indexed these collective works, and use such catalogues as they would dictionaries, encyclopædias, and other works of reference, pointing out to and instructing their readers and borrowers in the use of these catalogues as reference indexes.

Few catalogues are now printed without indentations and dashes appearing on almost every page, and little thought spared to the economy that may be practised in the use of indents. The dash or hyphen used to indicate books on the same subject, or words by the same author, as the word or name above the indent may be made much smaller than is done in some catalogues. So long as clearness is retained, a lengthy indentation is unnecessary. Mr. Cutter says: "I have examined two catalogues printed in the same type, one of which has 2,867 words for every 10,000 ems, the other only 1,227 words—the difference arising entirely from different indentation, and the first, notwithstanding its economy, being very clear." So it is seen that although this may be an extreme case, there is something to be guarded about in the use of indents.

As the appearance of the catalogue, when printed, will greatly depend upon the selection of type, some little thought and foresight can very well be bestowed upon this point, though there may be a lingering opinion that, considering the small choice one has, little can be done. One has only to compare the catalogues already printed to arrive at a tolerable idea of the different form and appearance that can be given in the arrangement of the few types that may be correctly and advantageously used, and which may be obtained at almost any printing office in the country.

In the selection of the type do not let the body of the catalogue be in a lesser size than brevier—I would say choose between bourgeois and brevier. The type for contents or notes will depend upon which of these types you select; as minion appears better alongside of bourgeois, and nonpareil with brevier. There have been numbers of catalogues printed throughout in larger faced types than these, but experience and comparison of cost with the smaller faced types, will go a long way in convincing one

of the wastefulness of such types, and more particularly for a double-columned page forme, where the larger types are quite unadaptable.

The printer's idea of beauty in a printed page can hardly be arrived at in a catalogue. Varying types, and expanses of spaces, dots and dashes, are to him fatal blemishes to elegance, and he desires a uniformity in the lines and the type used, that cannot be altogether conceded in a library catalogue, as all the defects in the printer's æsthetic vision are necessary evils in the eyes of the cataloguer. To the general public catalogues are not the most interesting reading, and to the average users of public libraries the consultation of the catalogue is generally made with some prejudice or ill-feeling towards it, as a catalogue. Anything that can be done to lighten or lessen such prejudices must enhance the reputation of the catalogue. Individually, I take sides, to some extent, with the printer in asking for a page that will please the reader's eye, and though I have occasion to admit the value of multiplicity of types, and other blemishes to beautiful pages, the printer's idea of taste should not be put aside.

At the present time, for reasons there is no necessity to touch upon here, the greater portion of public library catalogues printed are allotted by public tender to local or other printers; and as competition begets keen cut-down prices, so the chances are increased of the work of printing being consigned to a printer of inferior mechanical resources and talent. And in such cases, unless the specification upon which the tenders for printing are based is most carefully worded, in many small and detailed matters, though still of importance in the catalogue, the specification is deliberately eluded.

This, then, would point to first of all seeing that the specification for printing is drawn up in such a manner that all printers contracting for the work know exactly and similarly the distinct nature of the work required to be done, and as fairly know that the stipulations as to printing will in common fairness be adhered to.

In speaking of the most advisable width for the page, much will depend upon whether the catalogue is to be printed in single-column or double-column pages. For economical reasons, the double-column page is decidedly preferable, as the amount of printer's "fat" to be obtained from a single-column page is a decided objection. The monotonous length of the lines in a single-column page is also a goodly reason in favour of the double-column catalogue. For this form of catalogue then, 5 to $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches is quite sufficient for the width space the type should occupy. This allows of a line $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in each column. If the line be any shorter, the tendency is to "waste," and, what is as bad, ridiculous abbreviations.

With every different fount of type introduced, so much more complication is also introduced in the marking of the manuscript to let the compositors know the varied founts of type required. It is an excellent plan to adopt to thoroughly determine the types it is intended to use in the catalogue before compilation, because, in compiling the catalogue, it is simpler to indicate, and ensures less chances of error, the type to be used when the books are before you in cataloguing than when the manuscript alone is in your possession, and the particular book that a doubt has arisen upon is probably in the hands of some reader or borrower.

With all these economical suggestions as given, it is still a duty to have a catalogue well printed. Let it prove a creditable and lasting proof of ability to discern good printing. As to the number of copies to be printed, let the keenest judgment also be displayed. When a fairly accurate idea has been formed of the number likely to be

required, do not hesitate to add a few more, and more particularly in a library that has a constantly increasing number of readers and borrowers. By the expenditure of a pound or two 600 copies may take the place of 500, and for a little more 2,000 in place of 1,500. It is desirable to have more than can be calculated as actually required for the service of the library.

Rapidity in seeing through the press and getting the catalogue off one's hands is a creditable aspiration in the mind of the librarian as a business man, but this celerity should not be carried to such an extent as to endanger the precision of the work in hand. The greater the haste in printing, the larger the production of inaccuracies. Let proof-reading be done quickly by all means, but have the first regard to the perfection it is wished the catalogue should attain. The most careful and thorough work in compilation may be considerably discounted by careless printing and perfunctory proof-reading. Should the first proof in galley-slip be black with corrections, insist on seeing a second, and even a third proof in slip before it is made up into pages, and so avoid the alterations effected by the resetting of pages.

If reliance is to be placed upon the local numbers of the books in the catalogue, use an extra amount of care in ensuring their correctness. Exercise the utmost vigilance on the first sheet of the catalogue before the instructions "go to press" are given, and notice the sheet when printed off, previous to rolling or pressing, and afterwards let the vigilance displayed on the first sheet form a rule to be followed until the last page is clear of the machine, for not till then ought this care and attention to be relaxed.

A BOOK ON FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES.[1]

THIS is a bad book on a good subject. Mr. Greenwood's interest in the subject would appear to be of somewhat recent date, and in his haste to occupy the field, he has not been very scrupulous in the means which he has adopted to put a volume together. The result is about the most slovenly piece of book-making we have seen for a long time.

In the first place the compiler's style, in the little of his own writing that is to be found in the book, is not only clumsy and awkward, but constantly violates all the rules of grammar. We take two sentences at random from his opening pages, as fair specimens of his style:

"It would be most unfair to state that there has been negligence on the part of town councils and the leading men in towns where the Act has not been adopted, but is, we think, more to be attributed to the want of general information as to the formation of Free Libraries than from any other cause" (p. 2.)

"How extensively these institutions are used, how genuinely they are appreciated, how light and trivial the very small rate levied for their maintenance is felt, can only be gained by an intimate acquaintance with the Free Libraries in some of our larger towns (p. 4).

"Lancashire, Yorkshire and the Midlands from which counties have come so many of those movements which have throbbed the country," &c. (p. 4).

So much for Mr. Greenwood's style, when he has the pen in hand. But it must be admitted that, when he takes up the scissors and paste brush, he exhibits an astonishing mastery of those useful implements. We do not know how to do justice to Mr. Greenwood's facility in this way, except by setting down the pages occupied by some

[1] Free Public Libraries, their Organisation, Uses and Management. By Thomas Greenwood, London: Simpkin, Marshall & Co., 1886. 8vo, pp. xvi. 463.

of the larger extracts which he has put together from various sources; see pp. 6-7, 9-14, 17-21, 26-36, 39-41, 43-45, 48-53, 53-55, 56-58, 59-60, 61-63, 66-71, 71-75, 76-78, 83-87, 88-90, 101-107, 107-121, 121-131, 136-138, 142-144, 156-162, 170-173, 178-183, 188-196, 202-216, 217-225, 226-231, 237-242, 242-244, 246, 248-257, 261-273, 274-276, 282-284, 286-287, 298-302, 302-308, 309-333, 336-337, 340-346, 348-352, 352-353, 359-362, 365-367, 372-379. Now we do not say that much of this material is not very much more valuable than anything Mr. Greenwood could have given us of his own. But much of it is worthless except for the filling of so many pages of a book, and it is certainly unfortunate that when there are so many people who could handle the subject with knowledge and with authority, it should be left to a compiler who appears to be so completely helpless without the paste-pot and the shears.

How unintelligently these materials have been selected and put together may be seen from the one or two instances we can find space to give. On the subject of Classification, Mr. Greenwood reprints an inaccurate newspaper report of the papers and discussion on a portion of this rather wide subject at our Plymouth meeting, and observes "as the doctors have differed so very much on this subject (*sic*) of classification and cataloguing, the various opinions expressed in the foregoing give a general outline of the methods now prevailing!" A treatment of the "subject" which is quite sufficient to establish Mr. Greenwood's competency to deal with libraries and library methods! Again, Mr. Greenwood quotes the Plymouth report of the Library Association for the number of towns which have adopted the acts. This he does without any foolish waste of quotation-marks, of which he is particularly economical throughout his book, though he obviously makes it the basis of his table. The number there given is 133, that being the number in September last, and to this number Mr. Greenwood adheres (cf. pp. 1 and 308), though he himself records two instances in which the acts have been adopted since, so that he appears to have forgotten the simple arithmetical operation of adding 2 to 133! His extracts are put together so hastily that the long quotation from a Newcastle report beginning on p. 83 is printed as though it related to Sheffield, of which he has just been speaking, and it is only some pages further on that the careful reader will notice that the subject has been changed; the Westminster Library is treated of twice over, at p. 245 and again at p. 257; at p. 6 we are told that the Wandsworth Library is the first instituted under the acts in the Metropolis, and this statement is only tardily corrected at p. 244. We do not know what Mr. Greenwood means when he says of the Bethnal Green Library (which he calls "a very unique institution"!) that "although it bears the name of a free library is really not one." A free library that is not a free library must indeed be *very* unique!

We have noticed numerous errors in detail in going through the book, but as there is no index to the book it would take us too long to collect them. Mr. Greenwood twice tells us that the British Museum Library is "the largest collection in Europe," and that the entries in the catalogue, which he says are all in manuscript, "fills upwards of 300 folio volumes" (p. 40). We find such blunders as "Cheetham" for Chetham (twice), a "fine-cored ceiling," and Mr. Nicholls as librarian at Bristol. Some of our members will hardly recognise themselves under the names: Brown*h*ill, Easto*n*, (Norwich), Green*b*ough, Ink*e*ster, Folk*h*ard and Elliot*t* (Wolverhampton), while Mr. Jones would certainly not know himself as Mr. *Mees!*

Mr. Greenwood's account of "Some Prominent Free Libraries" is not very satis-

factory. It consists chiefly of copious extracts from the reports of the libraries at Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, Leeds, Sheffield, Newcastle, Wallsall and Stoke, put together at haphazard, with much expenditure of paste, and the least possible trouble and judgment. Perhaps indeed if Mr. Greenwood had described more he would have made more mistakes. That we are not singular in our opinion of his work is sufficiently shown by the following short leader from the *Wigan Observer*, which has been sent to us by a correspondent:

"Newspaper people are not generally disposed to take notice of books which are not in the ordinary way submitted for review, but there has lately been issued a work on 'Free Public Libraries,' by Mr. Thomas Greenwood, which demands peculiar attention. 'This book,' says a trusted correspondent, 'treating of a subject which has long required a thorough handling, has been evidently so hastily compiled, and is so full of inaccuracies, that it will be of little value to anybody. The woodcuts are also of a wretched description, almost unworthy of a cheap book. The account given of Wigan is a fair specimen of how not to do it. The library at Wigan had bequeathed to it a considerable sum by Dr. Winyard *(sic)*, a citizen of the borough, for the erection of buildings which were then, through the munificence of Mr. F. T. Taylor *(sic)*, stocked, at a cost of £10,000, with a magnificent collection of books, and the whole handed over as a gift to the town.' We need hardly say that Dr. Winnard did *not* leave money 'for the erection of buildings, neither did Mr. Thomas Taylor stock them with books.' What these gentlemen did do for Wigan is too well known, I hope, for even such a muddle as the above to lead people astray. Another correspondent points, out that the book has not even an index! Could it possibly set up a greater claim for the condemnation of bibliographers?"

The Library Chronicle.

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is issued on the 15th of the month, and communications, books for review, etc., intended for the forthcoming number should be addressed, not later than the 10th of the month, to the Hon. Editor,* ERNEST C. THOMAS, *care of Messrs. J. Davy & Sons, 137, Long Acre, W.C.*

The attention of librarians and library committees, of publishers and booksellers, is called to the advantages of the CHRONICLE *(which represents at least 300 libraries) as an advertising medium. Advertisements of Library Vacancies, and of Books Wanted, or Duplicates for Sale or Exchange by Libraries are inserted at low rates.*

Members of the Library Association whose subscription for the current year has been paid are entitled to receive the CHRONICLE.

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The Library Association.

MAY MONTHLY MEETING.

THE May Monthly Meeting was held at Gray's Inn Library on Friday, May 7th, at 7.30. p.m., Mr. W. E. A. Axon in the chair. The following gentlemen were proposed for election at the next meeting:—Mr. Albert Butcher, Welling, Kent, and Mr. Henry N. Stevens.

Dr. Garnett read a Paper on "Professor Diatzko's Cataloguing Rules." After a discussion a vote of thanks was passed to the writer of the Paper. Dr. Garnett exhibited some proof sheets of the classified catalogue of the last five years accessions to the British Museum Library, which has been prepared by Mr. Fortescue.

The Meeting then adjourned.

Library Notes and News.

ABERDEEN.—The Lending Department of the Free Public Library was formally opened on May 12th. Lord Provost Matthews was in the chair, and addresses were delivered by Baillie Walker, Dr. Alexander Bain, and others. Baillie Walker called attention to the catalogue of the Library, which had been prepared by Mr. Robertson, and spoke very highly of his services to the Library.

EDINBURGH.—Our readers would be glad to notice that the University of Edinburgh has acknowledged the services of Mr. John Small, M.A., their Librarian—services rendered not only to the University, but to literature—by conferring upon him the honorary degree of LL.D. The graduation ceremonial took place on April 21st, and Prof. Kilpatrick said in introducing Mr. Small:—"Having graduated here in 1847, he was appointed Librarian in 1854, and in the midst of his arduous duties he has found time for many valuable contributions to literature. Among these may be mentioned his edition of English Metrical Homilies, from MSS. of the fourteenth century, forming an important link in the history of the English language; the works of Gavin Douglas, Bishop of Dunkeld, with an elaborate Life of the Bishop; Sir David Lyndsay's "Monarchie" (Early English Text Society); Laing's "Remains of Early Scottish Poetry"; the Poems of William Dunbar (Scottish Text Society), and Derrick's "Image of Ireland," besides a number of historical and biographical papers, published in the Transactions of the Edinburgh Royal Society and the Scottish Society of Antiquaries, and in various cyclopædias and periodicals. It is also worthy of mention that Mr. Small was the chief associate of the late Professor Cosmo Innes, in 1867, in the work of editing the interesting old ledger of Andrew Halyburton. As a fitting recognition of his laborious and honourable career, I now ask you to confer upon him the degree of LL.D."

LEEDS.—At the Quarterly Meeting of the Leeds Town Council, held on May 5th, on the motion of Mr. Alderman Lupton, the Salary of the Public Librarian was raised from £250 to £300 per annum. The mayor called attention to the increase in the work done by the Library, and said that the scarcity of complaints from the public was astonishing. Several speakers referred to the excellent management of the Library and the value of Mr. Yates's services. Mr. Alderman Scarr, of course, opposed, and contended that the class of work performed by Mr. Yates was not worth as much by 50 per cent. now as when he was appointed, educational efficiency not being as scarce to-day as it was then. Whatever may have been the extension of "educational efficiency," it does not appear to have extended to Mr. Alderman Scarr.

LONDON: BRABY & CO.'S LIBRARY.—The Sixteenth Annual Meeting will be held on May 22nd. Sir Thomas Brassey is expected to attend, and among the names of intending visitors are those of Mr. Robert Harrison, Mr. Joseph Gilburt, and Mr. E. C. Thomas.

LONDON: BRITISH MUSEUM.—The Trustees are about to publish a classified catalogue of all the new books, except fiction, which have been received at the Library since January 1st, 1880. The catalogue has been compiled by Mr. George Fortescue, and some proof sheets were exhibited by Dr. Garnett at the May Monthly Meeting of the Library Association.

MANCHESTER.—We have to record the death of Sir Thomas Baker, which took place on April 17th, in his 76th year. He had been a Member of the Town Council since 1860, and from 1864 was Chairman of the Free Libraries Committee, in which capacity he had rendered excellent service to the community. A memorial notice of his life and work was contributed to the *City News* of April 24th, by Mr. W. R. Credland, which we hope to transfer to our pages; and another notice appeared in the *Inquirer*, of the same date.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.—Mr. Haggerston is about to bring out a supplement to his well-known Catalogue of the Lending Libraries, containing the accessions since September 1880, and has issued a circular inviting advertisements. The edition will be at least 10,000 copies.

OLDHAM.—The ceremony of opening the North Moor Free Library, as a branch lending library, took place on April 17th, under the presidency of the Mayor (Alderman J. W. Radcliffe). A number of speeches were delivered by Members of the Corporation, and there was a very numerous attendance. The Town Council have resolved by a large majority to open the Free Libraries, Museum, and Art Gallery for four consecutive Sundays, with the view of testing the feeling of the public as to the desirability of opening on Sundays.

TRURO.—We are glad to learn that the new Free Library is making progress, but it seems unfortunate that the funds do not seem to allow of a suitable remuneration for an efficient librarian. The committee advertise for a librarian at a salary of £20 per annum, hours 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., with three hours off.

YARMOUTH.—The *Yarmouth Gazette* records the opening, on May 3rd, of the Free Library which has been established by the Corporation of that town, and located in the ancient building known as the Tolhouse. The penny rate will yield £500 per annum. Mr. William Carter, late of the Ancoats Branch of the Manchester Free Library, has been appointed librarian.

We regret to have to record the death of Mr. H. A. Eliot, late Hon. Librarian of the Bank of England Library and Literary Society. Mr. Eliot was for some years a Member of the Council of the Association.

Our readers will receive with the present number a circular, in which the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science announce that they have decided to offer to public libraries and other kindred institutions the opportunity of purchasing the volumes of their Transactions at the reduced prices specified in the circular. It is unnecessary for us to say that these volumes, besides supplying a record of the important work done for so many years by an association, which by the very efficiency of its work has brought about its own euthanasia, are full of most valuable information on the wide range of subjects with which it has concerned itself.

Lord Farnborough, better known as Sir Thomas Erskine May, who died on the 18th instant, aged 71, began his career in the public service as assistant librarian to the House of Commons. He was appointed to this office by Speaker Manners-Sutton at the age of sixteen.

The library of Mr. J. Henniker Heaton, M.P., who has made a special collection of Australian books, contains over 30,000 volumes, and includes a recent acquisition of value in the manuscript correspondence of Governor Phillips, who was sent over to make a new country out of material supplied him by the Government in the shape of a thousand convicts.

Library Catalogues and Reports.

Aberdeen Public Library. Catalogue of the Lending Department. Aberdeen, 1886. 8vo., pp. xvi., 584-75, cloth.

A well-printed Catalogue on the index-plan, in which the leading contents of magazines and of collections are set out. We notice also that the titles of novels are collected under the headings of "Novels," as well as under the authors' names. The Catalogue is followed by a "Key to the Indicator." There are a good many advertisements.

Birkenhead Free Public Library. Catalogue of the Lending Department. Supplement, 1882-85. Birkenhead, 1886, 8vo., pp. viii., 112, cloth back.

A neatly-printed Catalogue in double columns, embracing nearly 10,000 vols. The contents of collectaneous works are sometimes set out. There are some advertisements.

Catalogue of the Leicester Permanent Library. Compiled by Frank S. Herne, Librarian. Leicester, 1885. La. 8vo., pp. [v.] 160, cloth back.

This is a very neatly printed double-column catalogue. It is on the index plan, but Mr. Herne has added a classification of the books in the library under important headings, such as England, France, Germany, &c. The catalogue is followed by a supplement, being fiction and juvenile books.

Boston (U.S.) Public Library. Thirty-fourth Annual Report, 1885 (from May 1st to December 31st. 8vo., pp. 46.

The aggregate number of vols. is 460,993. The issues for the eight months reported upon was 60,2431 vols. There are 59 vols. missing. The proposed new library building has been limited in size, so as to contain about twenty-five years of the growth of the Bates Hall Library. The gifts were unusually large and valuable, and number 2,518 vols. and 10,690 pamphlets. The grant has been reduced so as to materially affect the institution. There are 145 persons engaged at the Boston Public Libraries.

Report of the Librarian of the Maimonides Library, District No. 1. I.O.B.B. for the year ending December 31st, 1885. New York, 1886, 8vo., pp. 23.

The Maimonides Library belongs to a brotherhood of German Hebrews. During the year 2,769 vols. were acquired. There were (on December 31st) 26,840 vols. in stock. The number of registered readers was 4,708, and the annual circulation 47,570. The total expenditure was 2,883·06 dollars, of which 1,258·00 dollars were paid in salaries. From a comparative table we gather some information which our readers may like to possess. The Chicago Public Library consists of 111,621 vols., has 25,906 readers, and an annual circulation of 519,691 vols. The Public Library at Cincinnati has 158,136 vols. in stock, has 16,362 readers, and circulates 378,807 vols. Brooklyn Public Library has a stock of 83,888 vols., has 3,245 readers, and an annual circulation of 162,000. The Mercantile Library of New York has 198,858 vols. in stock, has 4,962 readers, and issues 112,375 vols. The Apprentices' Library at New York consists of 64,297 vols., has 8,442 readers, and an annual circulation of 163,436 vols. The Free Circulating Library at New York is composed of 21,624 vols., has 5,395 vols., and an annual issue of 200,959 vols., has an income of 9,724 dollars, of which 6,122 dollars is paid in salaries.

New South Wales. Sydney Free Public Library. (Report from Trustees for 1884-5.) Presented to Parliament by command. Folio, pp. 8.

A new wing is being erected, at a cost of £12,247. The new wing and rearrangement of the existing reading-room will provide accommodation for 200 more readers, and give space for about 100,000 vols. The system of lending boxes of books to country libraries is reported upon. Fifty-one issues were made on loan to twenty-seven institutions. The boxes were conveyed free of freight both ways to any part of the Colony. The system is to be extended. 4,729 vols. were obtained during the year, making up the stock to 64,283 vols. The visits to both libraries numbered 161,877, being 6,446 in excess of the previous year. The averages were, on week-days, 858, and on Sundays, 210. 4,287 borrowers' tickets were issued; and 81,881 vols. taken out for reading by 62,095 visits, showing 7,471 more vols. read and 4,300 visits in excess of the preceding year.

Record of Bibliography and Library Literature.

A catalogue of books placed in the galleries in the Reading Room of the British Museum [compiled by G. W. Porter]. Printed by order of the Trustees. London, 1886. 8vo, pp. vi. 611. Price 8s. 6d.

The additional space gained by the removal of the natural history department to South Kensington made it possible to take from the two galleries in the Reading Room the long sets of periodicals, and to replace them by a selection of new and useful works in all departments of literature, being books which were found to be most frequently in demand by readers. A double advantage has been attained by this alteration. Books in the room can be supplied with greater rapidity, and can be issued to readers when the other parts of the library are closed. The titles are short, but sufficient; press marks are given. There is an elaborate index. The catalogue does not include the books on the floor, which readers can take down themselves. The latter are described in the *List of the books of reference* (1871) of which a new edition is badly wanted. Indeed, a large proportion of these books of reference are entirely obsolete, and should be replaced by more useful works. The present catalogue represents a well selected library of 40,000 volumes and forms an extremely useful guide. The Museum authorities should devise some means of making their publications known. Here is a book which ought to be in great demand, among readers as well as librarians, and it does not appear to have been advertised at all.

The Rowfant Library. A catalogue of the printed books, MSS., autograph letters, drawings and pictures collected by Frederick Locker-Lampson. Printed for presentation, 1886. La. 8vo. pp. xii. 232.

The titles are given in full, with collations, and a few words of bibliographical description here and there. The books are grouped in two divisions, part I ranging from 1480-1700, and part II from 1700-1880. The collection is extremely rich as regards rare editions of books in English poetry and the drama.

How to form a Library: by H. B. Wheatley, F.S.A. London: Elliot Stock, 1886. sm. 8vo, pp. vii. 248.

This is an amiable little book. But it is a little difficult to make out for what particular class of person it is intended. The sort of reader who needs to be told that "Libraries may broadly be divided into public and private"; "that the libraries of societies are to a large extent special ones"; and that "reading without thought generates no ideas," will surely find too strong meat for him in the long lists of "Books of Reference," and of general and special "Bibliographies" which forms the most substantial portions of the book. These lists leave very much to be desired. The former is based upon the British Museum List of 1871, and in numerous instances the books there specified are retained, though they have been superseded by later editions or other works, many of which are conspicuous by their absence. The compiler says that "in some cases when the books are constantly being reprinted, *dates have been omitted!*" This no doubt saves a world of trouble; but it is surely positively misleading to give old editions, as in the case of Maine's Ancient Law, '1861,' and many others. We have noticed a great number of misprints. Could anything be more shocking than Montaigue, *Joseph* Warton's "History of English Poetry," and *P*aine's "History [*i.e.* of Literature]," the last two in the same sentence? It is curious that the very criticism which Mr. Wheatley applies to Dibdin's *Library Companion* on p. 2 might be applied *literatim* to his own book. The index would hardly be commended by the Index Society.

The Directory of Second-hand Booksellers. Edited by Arthur Gyles. Printed for the Editor, Waterloo Crescent, Nottingham, 1886. Sq. 8vo, p. viii. 1-48.

This useful little book contains a list of the booksellers in a hundred towns in Great Britain. The places are arranged in alphabetical order; and the booksellers who issue catalogues are indicated by an asterisk. The advertisements are useful in indicating the specialities; a number of booksellers, librarians and the trade can materially assist to make this directory a tolerably complete one.

Mr. Melvil Dewey replies, in the April *Library Journal*, to the criticism of the new edition of his "Decimal Classification," by Messrs. Perkins and Schwartz, which was published in the March number.

In the *Manchester City News* of April 24th and May 8th are two articles by Mr. J. E. Bailey, claiming the authorship of "Lancashire Hob and the Quack Doctor," printed in Tim Bobbin's works, for Henry Brooke, a former head-master of the Manchester Grammar School. A memoir of Brooke was contributed by Mr. Axon to the new Dictionary of National Biography and is here supplemented by Mr. Bailey.

At the closing meeting of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society, held at the Chetham Library, Manchester, on April 16th, Mr. Axon read a paper, "What was the First Book Printed in Manchester?"

Mr. G. J. Gray contributed to the *Cambridge Review* of March 10th an interesting list of "Cambridge University Periodicals," the earliest of which, "The Student, or the Oxford and Cambridge Miscellany," was published monthly by J. Newberry in St. Paul's Churchyard, from January, 1750, to July, 1751. Mr. Gray has added some useful notes.

Notes and Queries.

PSEUDONYM.—"Christopher Crowfield," the writer of *House and Home Papers* (London, Low, 1865), is Mrs. Harriet Beecher-Stowe. J. P. B.

RICHARD DE BURY MSS.—Mr. Macray has been good enough to point out to me that the Arundel MS. of the Philobiblon, which was formerly at Gresham College, would probably be found in the British Museum. There I have found it, and now, of course, find it difficult to understand how I came to overlook it in searching the catalogues before. Mr. Macray also informs me that there is a MS. in the Library at Bamberg, which I hope to examine. I have recently received a communication from M. Léopold Delisle, pointing out that there is a fourteenth-century MS. of the Philobiblon in the Escurial. E. C. THOMAS.

Correspondence.

CROYDON AND THE LIBRARIES ACTS.

At a meeting of the Croydon Town Council in February, it was proposed by one of the councillors that the Public Free Libraries Act be adopted in Croydon. Some costly schemes for the improvement of the town being contemplated, it was not favourably received. A requisition was then served on the Mayor, and a public meeting held at the Town Hall on Wednesday, February 24th. There was a large meeting, and the show of hands was enthusiastically and overwhelmingly in favour of a Public Free Library.

One individual, however, demanded a poll, and the Mayor fixed March 1st and 2nd, from 1 to 8 p.m., for the poll to be taken at the Town Hall. The weather was exceedingly bad and the hours inconvenient, and the result of the poll was 1,000 against the Free Library, and 500 in favour of it. One local paper had, however, in the meantime circulated a statement that the rate would not be limited to 1d. in the pound, but would probably reach 3d. or 4d. This was considered to have had a great effect on the polling. This and other misstatements have been contradicted by myself and others, and we are vigorously using the local press as an educator of public opinion against the time that the subject is brought up again. Even the opponents of the Free Library consider it as only *postponed* in Croydon.

JOSEPH GILBURT.

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The Library Chronicle.

NOTES ON TAVISTOCK PUBLIC LIBRARY.[1]

By the Rev. D. P. Alford, Vicar of Tavistock.

Its Foundation.—This Library was founded in June, 1799, by John Taylor, of Norwich, who was closely related to the Martineaus, and who came to Tavistock in connection with the mining interest; Rev. William Evans, who was Unitarian minister and kept a flourishing private school at Parkwood; Edward Atkyns Bray, afterwards vicar of the parish for thirty-six years, then a law-student, and John Commins. The original members, besides the four founders, were S. and T. Lang, Saunders and John Hornbrook, G. Cudlipp, Wm. Windeatt, Rev. Wm. Rooker (Congregationalist minister and father of Alfred Rooker), Charles Crapp, Mary Adams, William H. Harness and J. Hornbrook Gill. On July 7th, 1823, a bust of Mr. Taylor having been presented to the library by Mr. John Rundle, some time M.P. for Tavistock, it was gratefully accepted and ordered to be placed "on the centre of the bookcase," with this inscription:

"John Taylor, Esq.,
The Founder of this Institution."

The rules of the society and a catalogue of its books seem to have been first printed in 1810, and in the same year John, Duke of Bedford and his Duchess became members.

The minutes of meetings, which were carefully kept from 18th September, 1815, thankfully acknowledge many handsome benefactions from Duke John; and in 1839 with a most courteous letter, preserved in the minutes, he presents the institution with his bust in marble, by Francis.

Librarians.—The first librarian of whom we have any record, was W. Tapson, a bookseller, who agreed to do the work gratis, if he might supply all the books and papers. He is succeeded in 1819 by Samuel Best, who holds the office until his death in 1829. In September of that year there is a contest; sixty-four members are present, and nineteen voted for Mr. Wm. Physick and forty-five for Thomas Knight.

[1] Read at the Plymouth Meeting, September, 1885.

From 4th December, 1832, Mr. W. Physick is appointed, at £20 a year, in the place of Knight, who had died after three years' tenure of office, leaving the affairs of the library in some confusion. On January 25th, 1841, in consequence of the death of Mr. Physick, there was again a vacancy. Five candidates were proposed and seconded, and Mr. William Merrifield was elected by a majority of twelve. He benefited the library by his good business qualities, and his scientific knowledge was turned to good account in meteorological observations, which in his time began to be carefully registered. In 1842, his salary was increased by £3 per annum, and ultimately raised to £30. He served the institution faithfully until the need of rest compelled him to retire in 1871. His place was filled by Messrs. Reynolds, father and son, in succession, at a much reduced stipend, until 1881, when the latter absconded, and our present worthy librarian, Mr. R. Westington, was chosen out of six applicants to occupy the vacant post.

Catalogues and Rules.—The first printed are those of 1810. In November, 1817, a special meeting is to be held for revising the catalogue and rules, preparatory to their printing. Again, in July, 1822, revised rules are adopted and 200 new catalogues ordered to be printed. It is also ordered that a list of new books shall lie on the table for six months. In January, 1831, the rules and the catalogue are ordered to be revised, but the work is not completed till January, 1832, and on 14th January, 1833, a vote of thanks is passed to Dr. Barham and Mr. Doney for their particular attention to the improved classification and numbering of the books. One hundred books had been found missing past recovery, when Dr. Barham took the matter in hand. This is followed, in February, 1834, by the appointment of a committee to make a catalogue of new books added since the last catalogue, and to "consolidate the laws," and in December, 1836, we have Dr. Barham's scheme of classification entered in detail in the minutes. On 11th December, 1838, a committee is appointed to examine the books and prepare a new catalogue. They bring up an elaborate report on February 12th, 1839, and on the 20th, it is ordered that 160 catalogues be printed at a cost of not more than 1s. 6d. each, and a copy presented to every subscriber. In October, 1844, tenders are invited for printing a new catalogue, a committee for preparing it having been appointed in the previous July, and on January 13th, 1845, 200 copies are ordered to be printed at Mr. Brendon's estimate of £9 15s.

On November 1st, 1871, a special committee present a report, with revised rules and a recommendation that a new catalogue be brought out and supplied to subscribers at 6d. each. On 16th October, 1872, £8 2s. 6d. is voted for the expense of preparing the catalogue, and £9 15s. for its printing. These catalogues are now again out of date and mostly lost. For some time past the committee and the librarian have been preparing another. This has cost £24, and is now (October, 1885) in the hands of the members. In it the books are more carefully arranged and more fully indexed than ever before. So that, from 1810 to 1885, the catalogue has been revised seven times, making pretty nearly a new catalogue for every ten years.

Local Habitation.—The Library seems to have found its first home at Mr. Tapson's. In July, 1820, nearly £300 is in hand towards fitting up the abbey room over the archway, but at the end of the year this plan gives way to another; and during 1821 a new building is erected in the Greek style over against the present library, and costing in the end, with all its fittings, more than £1000. In the course of building, thanks are voted to Lord Ebrington and Lord John Russell for their handsome subscriptions;

and the list of subscribers, for wiping out the remaining debt, in 1824, mentions these donations amongst many others, Mr. J. Rundle, £100; Mr. J. H. Gill, £50; The Duke of Bedford and Mr. John Gill, £20 each; Mr. Taylor and Mr. Nicholas Rundle, each £10. In Febuary, 1829, the Duke of Bedford's steward proposes the removal of the library to the abbey buildings, which are to be set in order and considerably added to for the purpose; the buildings to be rent free for fifteen years. These terms are accepted, and a lease is drawn up with the four founders of the Society and Mr. J. Rundle and Mr. J. H. Gill, as having contributed more than £100 each to the Society, in May, 1832. The Society's own building is abolished, as out of keeping with its surroundings and as being in the way of street improvements; a short life for a building which, in the language of its originators, was to be "distinguished for utility, economy and *duration*."

In January, 1818, the Society had generously given the use of their old library for the meetings of a newly formed "Society for Mental Improvement," and in 1824 it readily gave up its new library for meetings of the Peace Society and the Anti-Slavery Society. But it was growing more careful as it grew older, and in September, 1831, it offers its lecture room to the Tavistock Institution at a rent of £10 a year, and in July, 1833, the lower room to the same institution at £2 a year. Next year, however, the Institution may use the library itself for their monthly conversational meetings, apparently without any charge. By January, 1848, the original lease has run out, and the rooms are offered to the society at £10 a year rent, just enough to cover the outlay on repairs, &c. These terms are accepted in July, and in September the "Institution" is to pay £4 per annum to the Society for the lecture room. In April, 1853, the "Institution" gives up the room, and the Freemasons agree to pay £1 10s. per annum to hold their Monday evening meetings there. In January, 1854, the same room is to be let also to the S. P. G. for its quarterly meetings; and in April of the same year there is an abortive attempt to let it, besides, to the newly established drawing school at £4 a year. But the drawing school must have it "all in all, or not at all," and as no other room can be found for the Freemasons, the scheme falls through. By April, 1856, the rent of the lecture room, small as it is, is far in arrears. In January, 1866, an appeal is made to the Duke of Bedford to reduce the rent of the library to a nominal sum, and in 1868 the Duke resumes the whole building, lets the lecture room to the Freemasons for £2. per annum, and reduces the rent by that amount, *i.e.* from £10 to £8. This may be considered as rent for the librarian's house; so that, after its many vicissitudes, the library ends with having its own room upstairs and the small museum downstairs practically free of charge. It is to be regretted that it could not have kept the lecture room in its own hands to be available for such literary discussions as were carried on last winter in connection with the library with great success.

Many other points in the history of the library might be drawn out in proper order, such as the gradual widening of its area, the slow supplanting of old papers and periodicals by new ones, the coming upon the stage and the passing away of many characters still kindly remembered, but to attempt to do this duly would make these cursory notes far too lengthy. The best way will be therefore, now, just to jot down in order, very briefly, any notices of chief interest in the minutes of the Society's proceedings as they occur in their chronological order, with only a slight attempt to group them according to their subjects.

One subject occurs at once to any one who knows the difficulty of getting sound

literature admitted, in its proper proportion, into small libraries, and that is the solid mental food that satisfied the readers of forty or fifty years ago. Here are a few specimens: 4th July, 1831, out of £14 spent on books £7 are given for "Buffon's Natural History," £5 5s. for "Farey on the Steam Engine," and the rest is divided between "The Rectory of Valehead," "Walker's Gazeteer," "Muir's Memoirs," and "Watson's Law of Tithes." For October, 1840, we have this supply of books: "Morton onSoils," Dryden's "Prefaces and Introductions," Professor Smyth's "Lectures on Modern History," Combe's "Moral Philosophy," De Foe's "History of the Devil," and "Lord Brougham's Speeches," at £2 10s. Perhaps the best assortment of books were added to the library from July, 1845, to January, 1850. During that time a sub-committee (on which Rev. T. Gibbons, Rev. W. Lockwood and Mr. Carter were very active) was appointed year after year to choose books for the library, on its own authority, and to spend nearly £50 a year upon them. The library was probably right in resuming its power into its own hands in 1850, but whilst it lasted the sub-committee seems to have acted with great judgment and in a very catholic spirit. Our well bound folios of Parliamentary Journals are certainly in every way a solid addition to the library. This is their history. There had been many inquiries about the possibility of getting these reports at various meetings of the society. At last, in July. 1836, Mr. J. Rundle, M.P., has managed to procure the Journals, and pays £34 out of his own pocket to have them bound. We must put beside this generosity John, Duke of Bedford's gift of ninety-four volumes of Parliamentary Debates, also well bound, and Mr. J. H. Gill's handsome present of "Rees' Encyclopædia," in full calf, valued at £50.

As one other example of the high aims of the society, we notice that on 8th April, 1833, it spends £3 16s. on Robert Hall's works, £5 5s. on "Malte-Brun's Geography," and £4 on "Kirby and Spence' Entomology.". The love of books also began to infect the fair sex. In 1829, there must have been a female candidate for the post of librarian, for the Society passed this rather ungallant resolution: "That no female be considered eligible to fill the situation of librarian to this institution." But earlier than this the ladies seem, in some cases, to have valued their opportunities more than the men, for in July, 1822, we have this entry, amongst other resolutions: "That the husbands of those ladies who are subscribers to the institution be entitled to the same privileges as regards the newspapers as if they subscribed themselves." This seems to mean that the wives had joined the library for the sake of the books, but it was thought that the husbands, though they would not come for the sake of the books, might possibly like to come for the sake of the newspapers, which had in fact been just then first added to the library as a new feature in its operations.

As regards *payments*, originally the members had guinea shares in the concern, which shares were transferable. These payments came to be regarded as entrance fees, and as such were not abolished until April, 1866. The annual subscription was a guinea until June, 1822, when the newsroom was opened, in addition to the library, for two dailies and one weekly, their cost not to exceed £20 a year. To meet this outlay five shillings a year was added to the members' subscriptions, which has continued at twenty-six shillings ever since.

The *newspapers* first introduced were the *Courier*, the *Morning Chronicle*, and the *Examiner*. Besides these, the society was supplied gratuitously by the Duke of Bedford with two weekly Exeter papers and the *London Gazette*. From time to time,

his Grace is requested to make some change in his papers, as old ones decay and new ones take their place, but the gift is continued in one form or another down to the year 1868. Further, as to newspapers, in August, 1832, the *North Devon Advertizer* is taken in lieu of the *North Devon Journal.* In the same year the *Athenæum* is ordered, and continued with slight intermissions to the present time. In June, 1833, the *North Devon Journal* is restored, and takes the place of the *Barnstaple County Chronicle.* The *Monthly Magazine* had been taken in from the first; it is discontinued in 1841. The quarterlies come on the scene in 1818, but are not kept carefully enough to be bound until 1832. In July, 1833, the *Metropolitan* is discontinued and *Tait's Magazine* is taken instead. The *Cornish Guardian* and the *Devonport Independent* are to be discontinued, and the *Globe* and the *True Sun* to be sold at half price on the second day. In July, 1834, the *Standard* and *True Sun* are discontinued, the *St. James's Chronicle* and *The Times* at half price taken instead. In July, 1841, the *Morning Chronicle*, the *Western Luminary*, the *Colonial Magazine*, the *Foreign Quarterly Review* and the *Magazine of Natural History* are all ordered to be discontinued. In July, 1846, the *Morning Herald* is to take the place of the *Morning Chronicle.* In January, 1847, the *Globe* is to take the place of the *Express*, and in January, 1848, all papers but *The Times* and the *Examiner* are to be sold. In February, 1850, the *Globe*, the *West Briton*, *Bentley's Miscellany*, and the *Athenæum* are discontinued, but the two last are brought in again in January, 1853. In October, 1853, Tuesday's edition of the *Plymouth Mail* is to be taken. In April, 1854, *The Times* is to be had on the day of publication. In July, 1855, the *Express* evening newspaper is to be taken and the *Express* weekly to be dropped. In January, 1860, the *Cornhill* and *Macmillan* are begun, the *Western Morning News* in April, and in September, Mr. Benson, the Duke of Bedford's steward, is asked to change the *Plymouth Journal* for the *Western Daily Mercury.* On July 20th, 1864, *Bentley* resigns to *Temple Bar*, and so we come down to the many monthlies, light and heavy, of our own time, when it is rumoured that even the revered *Edinburgh* is about to assume the more popular form and become a monthly instead of a quarterly. In May, 1863, the library subscribed £10 10s. to Mudie's, quite a new feature in its work. In February, 1864, £9 9s. to Smith was substituted for this, and for some years this has been reduced to five guineas.

The *Meetings* for business seem originally to have been monthly. In June, 1817, they are ordered to be fortnightly. After a time they became monthly again, and in January, 1841, the meetings are ordered to be quarterly, and the amount of money to be spent on books at the Michaelmas and Lady-day meetings is limited. In early days the members used to dine together at the "Bedford Arms," on the day of their annual meeting in July. Possibly this dropped out of use as a needless luxury, or as slightly incompatible with "the feast of reason and the flow of soul," represented by a library. At times, the library has been quite wealthy, and then, going a little too far and too fast, has had to repent of its extravagance and draw in. July, 1829, has an entry to the effect that as the library was suffering from want of funds the "Stafford Gallery engravings" should be sold in 126 lots of ten shillings each. In July, 1844, a telescope is purchased for £25, with £7 10s. additional expense afterwards. In October, 1855, it is offered for sale at £20, and is ultimately sold (to Mr. Merrifield) for £10. The library showed an early appreciation of Carlyle, buying his works when he was comparatively unknown; and in the same inquiring spirit it purchased Tennyson's first volume of Poems in January, 1832.

Some of the early *Rules* are useful, but too strict for modern taste. In July, 1822, it is ordered that no member may take a book from the shelves but through the librarian. In August, 1824, it is ordered that all new members shall sign their names in a book kept for the purpose. On 13th December, 1836, Mr. Flamank being in the chair, this grimly humorous resolution is passed :—"That a room be engaged near the library for the accommodation of gentlemen who talk so long and so loud as to inconvenience the readers." As a sign of the times, we have in July, 1846, a resolution that the necessary steps be taken to avoid paying window tax; and the library is first lighted with gas in 1832. In December, 1832, it is resolved that members of the *family* of subscribers shall be admitted to the library for 5s. a year, and members of their *households* for 10s. This was done away in January, 1854, to be substantially revived quite lately.

These very hurried notes must now be drawn to a close, though a more careful scrutiny would doubtless reveal many other facts of considerable interest to the book-loving world. The number of books in the library is now 8,000. We have it on record that in August, 1816, the library consisted of 525 volumes and in September, 1817, of 660 volumes.

Few libraries in a town of the size of Tavistock have so long a history, and have been so well and so generously supported. May it always be the pride of Tavistock to maintain in full efficiency so noble and so useful an institution.

REMARKS ON CLASSIFICATION,

PRELIMINARY TO A FORTHCOMING SCHEME, IN ALPHABETICAL SERIES, OF SUBJECT-HEADINGS FOR A CLASSED DICTIONARY CATALOGUE OF A LIBRARY, WITH THEIR CROSS REFERENCES, SUPER-ORDINATE, SUB-ORDINATE, CO-ORDINATE, AND COLLATERAL.[1]

By Wm. Archer.

On the occasion of the visit of the Library Association of the United Kingdom to Plymouth this year, for its annual reunion, it had been my hope to have been able to offer, for the acceptance of the members, as a contribution to the Proceedings, the embodiment of an Alphabetical Scheme or Arrangement of the manifold and various Subject- and Class-Headings under which the multitudinous and heterogeneous independent works forming a Library, even, say of the greatest magnitude, would assort themselves, the whole forming the basis of a Classed Catalogue on the "Dictionary" plan, and, wanting of course the books themselves, in what might hence be called skeleton form. But this, for several reasons, I shall have to postpone.

That such a project should be, at first effort, either complete and thoroughly exhaustive, or free from errors of commission and of omission, I feel it is not possible to hope, but, in essaying it, my aim was, and still is, to try to approach that realization as nearly as possible.

But, in fact, minor shortcomings or omissions therein would possibly drop in of themselves, as it were, in the course of practically cataloguing the contents of a large

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[1] Read at the Plymouth Meeting, September, 1885.

library. Still, the nearer the approach to thoroughness and the fewer important omissions of probable or possible Class- and Subject-headings, the better would such a merely nominal recapitulation fulfil the end in view, of suggesting to the cataloguer, in the course of his work, the most likely categories requiring to be filled in, as well as the related subject-headings *from* and *to* which cross references should be made in order at once to obviate any unlucky omissions or oversights calculated to baulk the enquirer, as well as to insure that the "alphabet," from beginning to end, shall be duly knit into a harmonious and symmetrical whole.

My intention further was, and still is, to append to each of the various more or less comprehensive or restricted Headings the appropriate and expressive Subject- or Class-numbers, otherwise location-marks, indicating where the books, which would come to be recapitulated under each, would be found in the library—these on the "Dewey" or decimal system of shelf arrangement—the system, of any of those devised or projected by the skilled and experienced librarians of America, which appears to me to be at once the most ingenious and the most simple, facile, and ready in use, and the most mnemonic in character.

But, although the greater part of the material is ready, I found that I should have been unable to have the whole thoroughly arranged, not to speak of being brought through the press in a complete state and typographically corrected, in time for the present meeting of the Association, and I accordingly determined to postpone the fulfilment of my intention to another occasion, when I might hope to be able to carry it out in detail.

Nor do I myself so much regret the delay, seeing that, as we all know, Mr. Dewey has been for some time engaged in extending and amplifying his system, bringing his decimals from three to often five places,—in other words, making his shelf-classification more minute,—that is to say, more and more in accord with the more and more specific and restricted character of the numerous monographs and highly specialized works, due to the industrious scientific research and the literary activity of the present day, which keep ever crowding in upon librarians. In a few cases he slightly modifies the application of his highly ingenious and simple scheme, which, although like almost any one that could be devised or adopted somewhat artificial in certain places, is still, perhaps, just as free from anomalies as could be any other necessarily linear arrangement of things so many-sided, and with such various mutual affinities as Books at large are and must be. As, from what he informs me, the results of his extended labours will doubtless soon see the light and so become the great gain and common property of many librarians, I hope therefore ere long to have the advantage of scrutinizing and most probably following out most of his modified details as regards the shelf-numbers to be appended, before *my* "skeleton" scheme would stand out, inviting the accession of muscle and nerve, of heart and circulatory system, and the consequent vivification following upon the intercalation of the living contents of a great library—the erstwhile mere skeleton therefore now becoming converted, as it were, into a living organism, and albeit not the noisy, yet the clearly speaking and happily suggestive guide of the would-be explorer in the great mine hard by.

It will be inferred, so far as my humble opinion and experience go, that I consider the "Dictionary (Cutter) Catalogue" by author, title and subject in one continuous alphabet, to be by far the best form of classed catalogue that has been, or indeed could be, devised—not only the most simple, convenient, quick, ready and

time-saving in use, but I will add likewise the easiest to compile. I do not mean of course that it does not involve more labour than a simple author catalogue, but that, of any form of *classed* catalogue, the "dictionary" by author, title and subject, in one continuous "alphabet" on the "Cutter" principle, as it is the readiest to use, so also is it really the simplest to construct.

Some, if I gather aright, whilst recognizing that an author catalogue, pure and simple, certainly represents, as it were, the real and indispensable muscular elements (still maintaining the metaphor), perceive however that there is yet no "skeleton" to sustain the whole fabric, nor "nerves" to control its incoherent constituents, nor any "circulatory system" and necessarily no mutual correlation of parts, yet still urge that such a catalogue followed by some kind of systematized classification at the end (of the nature or plan of which those who contend for it, often seem to have but a very vague or no notion) with references backwards therefrom to the pages on which the main or primary (author) entries of the works occur, would be the best. But in reality, I think, one of the very highest and strongest recommendations and the feature in every way the most satisfactory to the visitor—with small inclination to sit down and study systems, at best with but little time to spare—of the "Cutter" catalogue is just the very fact of the whole constituting, from beginning to end, but one simple continuous "dictionary"—one single uninterrupted "general alphabet."

Moreover, in further reply, it appears to me to be wholly futile to think of attempting to adopt or to construct what might be called a "tree of knowledge," or something like a genealogical tree, and then to locate the various works according to their nature and scope, now in the main stem, now in the primary branches, now in the secondary or tertiary branches or finer ramifications, now in the ultimate twigs, and at last the most special works, it might be said, in the very leaves themselves, and then to expect that visitors will spend time endeavouring to ascend your "tree," first gazing around to try by laborious scrutiny to discover in what branch or twig the fruit they would wish to gather might be surreptitiously lurking or even dexterously concealed.

Your "tree of knowledge" would, by the great majority, be condemned, I fear, at first effort to grasp its scope and spread, or to master the laws which might govern its ramifications,—its phyllotaxis, so to speak. Nay, it would not please even yourself very long: you would shortly wish to modify here, to reconstruct there, to subdivide here, to lop off a branch there, and anon to develope yet a fresh outgrowth in some other new direction.

And yet, no doubt, there really are many departments of knowledge, as to which it would be safe enough to assume that something like a common concurrence of opinion has been, for a time at least, arrived at; and indeed, what has been advanced notwithstanding, in the construction of a dictionary catalogue, we must, after all, in practice, proceed more or less on some such assumption, from point to point, or stage to stage, all round the circle of knowledge and of thought. But though this be so, the very dictionary form, one which everyone (babies excepted) of sheer necessity understands without any instruction or preliminary waste of time in study, seems to obviate or neutralize, nay indeed, actually to remove the very disadvantages referred to. The inquirer has no set scheme to scrutinize beforehand (and probably to condemn), but proceeds directly as his instinct guides him, arriving readily at his goal, if not always at first by the very shortest route; but indeed, even if not, this would be really more or less, his *own* fault. No ideal "tree" is indeed attempted actually to be realized and

formally set down in a preconcerted scheme, yet the grouping and subordination of the several headings take, in one's mind's eye, the form of some such "tree" or "trees." For in our mind's eye, we might imagine that from below upwards, along the primary, secondary, tertiary ramifications (and so on), even to the ultimate twigs or the very leaves themselves of some such temporary ideal "tree," representing some given field of knowledge or of inquiry, we inscribe the names of the various headings, the widest or most comprehensive below, those less comprehensive or less general higher up, proceeding onwards and upwards to the most special, upon some such system. This ideally completed, then let us suppose that, lopping off the minor twigs and larger and larger ramifications downwards, bearing these subject names, one by one, we sort out the whole into linear sequence according to the accident of their initial letter or first syllable. This done, we should have the groundwork of our skeleton dictionary scheme. But this would not be all. The individual elements so obtained, thus linearly arranged in single file, would be now obviously discrete, incoherent, disjointed, isolated—compelled indeed to be so, as yet, by the artificial exigencies of the alphabet. In order, then, to combine these into a systematic whole, we should have to interlink these various subject-headings, scattered up and down the alphabet, by a continuous, ramifying, often diverging, chain or chains of references, carried on from the one or comparatively few, supreme or primary, all-embracing or much-embracing, most comprehensive subject-headings to the less comprehensive, step by step, down to the least comprehensive,—or in other words, the ultimate, most specific, more or less numerous headings, —as these occur up and down the alphabet. We have then to finish by intercalating cross references from every at all important synonymous subject-name *not adopted* as a standard name in our scheme, *to that one once for all selected for use*, and this all fulfilled (for all departments of knowledge or of thought) we have now, at last, attained our "skeleton" for a classed dictionary catalogue.

In our scheme, then, there is a pervading, underlying, more or less far-reaching, more or less divided and diverging, thread of connection between its various parts, perfectly unobtrusive, but none the less real,—unseen and unnoticed probably by the user of such a catalogue, but, though unawares, none the less truly felt,—all he recognises, perhaps, is that he has somehow attained what he wanted with the expenditure of a minimum of time and of effort, and accordingly departs rejoicing.

The principle I advocate, and that on which my forthcoming scheme of headings is constructed, by no means demands, or even presupposes, any particular and arbitrary number of great primary supreme headings, still less does it necessarily involve or hold itself bound to the "Dewey" ten, or, more correctly speaking, the one great and nine minor headings of the groups in his scheme for the shelf-arrangement. His chief or supreme much-embracing classes, or perhaps more properly speaking broad sub-divisions or great cohorts of the library must no doubt appear therein, or indeed in any form of classed catalogue, for they are real, natural—though extremely comprehensive, much-embracing, very broadly stretching—great primary groupings, not imaginary or artificial conceptions; and so also as regards his more or less subordinate or minor headings. But if some librarians would prefer a greater number of primary classes, or to separate into two or three, or many more (even ninety and nine, or nine hundred and ninety and nine, or more or less) headings any one or more of the "Dewey" great cohorts, I am fain to hope that they will not fail to find these desired groupings represented, under some selected designation (with references from other synonymous names that probably

might occur to an inquirer), in my recapitulation. In an actual catalogue (I need hardly say) there would be unfolded to view, step by step, the whole resources of the library, falling under each of these various branches whatever they might be in name, significance or nature, or whatever their scope or grasp.

A few words on the *modus operandi*.

When any given work is taken in hand to be catalogued, after, of course, filling a slip for the main or primary and *full* author-entry, (giving, it need hardly be said, the pagination, size, publisher and imprint, and likewise, when necessary, which it very often is, giving contents), the great essential guiding principle to be followed—and that with scrupulous rigidity and rigorous unswerving constancy, with unbending adherence to the dictum "like case, like rule"—is to enter the work (or each section or portion of the work diverse in bearing or scope, if it be of collectaneous character) as briefly as is compatible with precision on a further slip, with due reference therefrom to the primary or main author-entry, this slip bearing, on the upper corner, the name of that subject- or class-heading which in its grasp is the *very narrowest or most specific that will admit or contain the subject-matter or scope of the work* that may be in hand, taking care that the chain of references already mentioned from the subject- or class-headings of the very widest scope or most comprehensive range possible, to which the minor or intermediate heading in question is subordinate, is duly provided for (if not already done in a former case once for all), and that too methodically through all the steps or stages entailed by the nature of the case.

There should also, finally, I need hardly add, be a slip written for the title-entry for all works bearing a strictly distinctive name, and this by the first word (not an article or preposition) with reference thence to the main (author) entry. For, as regards many works (not applicable to all, of course) the Name of the Book might, with complete propriety, be regarded almost or quite as much in the light of a *proper name* as the Name of the Author himself, and to provide for the contingency of the latter being forgotten by the inquirer would demand this recognition. An entry under any striking catchword in the title, used as a first-word, is also highly desirable.

And here a piece of advice. Let all the slips, whatever they may be, be written for each work before it is laid down out of hand, whilst the compiler has physically and mentally a grasp of it. Let him not make the primary or main author-entry now, and think to himself to come back and make the further necessary entries therefrom at some other more convenient season—the great chance is that these further entries may never be made at all, and so, in any such case, there would remain a permanent irremediable hiatus.

Of course this chain of references made once for all is there ready for every future similar case, but the most scrupulous care is requisite that it be made *just that once*. Better that a certain number of such cross-reference slips (as one proceeds from time to time) shall be made, which, on sorting up the mass of slips into dictionary order, should turn out redundant and fall to be cancelled, than that one single link in the chain in any quarter should be unfortunately missing, entailing a blank or break in the sequence, interrupting the continuity, marring the result, and disappointing the inquirer. With ordinary care, as one goes along, I fancy it is really not difficult to escape this error; however, I should anticipate that such a cut-and-dry printed scheme, as I project, ought to prove a not unwelcome or inappropriate reminder to aid the cataloguer in avoiding such possible sins of omission.

The subject- or class-entry, whatever be its scope, tells if any, and, if so, how many and what books falling in and embraced thereunder have been added to the library during the period over which the catalogue extends, the entries themselves abbreviated to a single line, or at least to as great an extent as is compatible with due exactitude.

As illustrations of the rule to place works, as they present themselves, under the most specific heading, the following instances may perhaps serve. Thus, a work relating to an English, a French, a German or an Irish city or town, is not placed under "Europe," nor yet under "England," "France," "Germany," or "Ireland," respectively, but directly under the (English) name of the particular city or town that may be in question, references being made from the names of the countries to those of the towns. Of course, on the other hand, works according to *their* scope, referring to Europe at large or to any particular country as a whole are recorded under their individual (English) names.

To give another instance, works on, say, "spectrology" are not placed under "physics," nor yet under "chemistry," or "optics," or "light," or "astronomy," or "microscopy," still less under "science," or "natural sciences," but directly under "spectrology," references being made from "light," and "optics," from "chemistry," and from "astronomy," and "microscopy," respectively to "spectrology,"—for works on this subject have a bearing upon all the other subjects mentioned, that is, they all make "spectrology" their servant,—only works referring to "physics" *at large*, or of miscellaneous character, or to "chemistry," or to "astronomy," or to "microscopy" *in general* being placed under those comprehensive headings.

Again, a work relating to or touching solely on, say, the "family of the cats," is not to be placed under "zoology," nor yet under "vertebrata," nor "mammalia," nor "carnivora," but directly under "felidæ," reference being made from the first-named most comprehensive heading, step by step downwards, to that most restricted heading which will contain a work specially on "the cats," namely "felidæ;" whilst at any halting-place, so to speak (say, for instance, "carnivora"), other works, which, having regard now to *their* scope, are equally under *their own* most specific headings, may be referred to, their comprehensiveness being covered by that of the heading under which they may find themselves, some of which, indeed, it will be readily understood, may (or must) embrace dissertations on that special or particular "family" of animals mentioned. And this illustration applies, of course, generally.

Volumes of miscellaneous treatises and of collectaneous works require to be duly analyzed and their contents to be distributed under the particular subject-headings to which the various associated essays or treatises may relate.

But exclusive of those of a collectaneous or miscellaneous character, it often happens that certain works must necessarily, or at least very advantageously, be referred to under two or more subject-heads. I allude to works of a many-sided character, and which offer to various readers desirous to work out any given line of research, information of a certain greater or less value, or extent, or nature, according to the standpoint from which they are approached, or the special or temporary end each inquirer may have in view.

Anonymous works, it need hardly be said, are of course to be entered under the appropriate class- or subject-headings in the general alphabet, and, similarly, reference made thence to the main or primary entry under the first-word (this applying, of course, only to works whose author is still unknown).

It is not generally thought necessary in a dictionary catalogue to refer from the less or least comprehensive subject-headings backwards or upwards to the more or most comprehensive headings—that is to say from the special to the general—in other words from the subordinate to the superordinate,—as doubtless every inquirer will be aware that the works falling under the more or most comprehensive subject-headings may, and indeed mostly do, contain references or disquisitions bearing on the same subjects or their branches to which other works of narrower scope, and hence relegated to minor or more special subject-headings, are restricted.

Still I would propose in my recapitulation, seeing that often the higher or more broadly comprehensive or superordinate headings might not be generally obvious, to give the names of these (*in italics*) beginning with the next more comprehensive,. onwards, step by step, to the very broadest, just after the particular heading that might be in question,—the whole to come in before the recapitulation of the works in an actual catalogue falling thereunder,—and then appending, as before mentioned, the minor or subordinate headings.

Further, following the subordinate headings, it is most desirable, nay all but essential, to append the names of such subjects and classes as have a co-ordinate relationship, then following these oftentimes even others, which may have but a collateral bearing or more distant affinity—both sets of references, when called for, being doubtless calculated to be a boon to enquirers,—although references to these very headings naturally and necessarily would find themselves elsewhere under certain other more comprehensive headings, to which they in turn would now be *directly* and essentially, not merely collaterally or accidentally or incidentally, subordinate.

A danger to be carefully guarded against would be the putting some works under one heading and others of similar scope under another, albeit synonymous, heading, leading to misapprehension and loss of time in application, and this is one of the not unlikely sources of error or "traps" that the blocked-out scheme of headings I propose to construct ought doubtless to tend to obviate compilers falling into. In it most, at all events, of such synonymous but unused subject-names would be found to be *once for all* blocked or barred by interposition of a cross reference serving as a prohibition—thus sending the compiler, under the *same* circumstances, ever in the *same* direction.

It need hardly be dwelt upon that the names of persons may themselves form so many subject-entries. In such cases the titles of works *about* certain persons follow the titles of their *own* works (if any in the catalogue) under their names, the words *essay on, notice of, life of*, as the case may be, being prefixed thereto, with due reference to the author of the work of which any particular writer or celebrated person in question becomes now the subject. Thus (exclusive of course of minor articles in the periodicals) not only the works *by*, but *about* any writer, or having reference to his writings, or other noted person, that occur in the catalogue can be seen at a glance.

Occasional form-headings may most advantageously be introduced — that is, headings which are not precisely subject-headings. Thus, "almanacs," "dictionaries," "directories," "encyclopædias," "gazetteers," "guide books," "lectures," "speeches," "tables," "travels," "voyages," "wars," *etc.*, under which would be recorded briefly such as the catalogue contains appertaining thereto, with the requisite reference to the full entry or primary entry in the general alphabet. Other form entries again may, indeed must, occur, such as "biography," "criticism," "drama (*plays*)," "essays," "fiction," "grammar," "history," "letters," "literature," "poetry," "science," "sermons,"

etc. Under several such as these, considered merely as form-headings, works need not (at least ordinarily) be recapitulated, but, if not, due reference should be made thereunder to the more appropriate subject-headings in the catalogue under which works of their particular nature or application should be found recorded. Thus, under "poetry," considered as a form-heading, references should be made to "English," "French," "German," "Italian (and other) literature: *poetry;*" whilst considered as a subject-heading, there would appear thereunder only works bearing on or relating to that form of literature—the *thing* called "poetry"—at large, or in the abstract.

It is thus obvious that an inquirer desiring to pursue his researches through *every phase* of a subject (so far as the works in a given catalogue might reach) may begin, as it were, at the summit of the pyramid and follow downwards the subordinate references to be found under the widest and most comprehensive subject-headings, as well as under the intermediate, until he reaches the graduâlly widening base of the "pyramid," that is, the various ultimate, most restricted and most special subject-headings, extending, it may be, up and down the alphabet.

But, on the other hand, as most visitors come to work within a given *restricted area* of inquiry, the advantage, in saving time and trouble, must necessarily be very great indeed in having the works bearing on a special subject or definite field of research, *and those only*, relieved from intrusion of others which, though possibly kindred, are really, for the occasion, *irrelevant*, brought into a single conspectus. By this means, the inquirer can arrive, probably by a single effort, in the very simplest manner, and in the shortest possible time, at something applicable to his need. In any case he can hardly fail to reach his goal, albeit possibly not by the very shortest route, that is if he should neglect to begin by reference to the *most specific heading* under which the work or works he desires to make use of would naturally fall. But, so easy, ready and convenient is the "dictionary" principle, in one uninterrupted continuous alphabet, it really does not much matter. The inquirer may begin his reference wherever he may at first suppose the most likely to lead him aright, and he must be somewhat unlucky if, for him, a pleasant foreground is not at once offered to observation, which he can hardly, in most cases, shut away from view, without his attention having been caught by certain finger-posts, as explained, directing him further on, and oftentimes further back, thus opening to view new fields—wider backwards, narrow onwards—and leading him step by step until he finds the exact place where are indicated just the very sources of information which he wants. But, of course, having even a very moderate acquaintance with the "dictionary" principle, he would very probably forthwith, and indeed *should*, turn directly and at once (just as he would refer to a particular desired word in a dictionary), losing no time whatever on the way, to the very ground which he came to explore, and to try to cultivate. If he does not really know where or what that is, he cannot blame the catalogue—he had better go home and ponder a while, until he may have made up his mind; if he really does know he has every facility for finding it forthwith.

I may, I trust, be forgiven for urging yet one other word of warning on those who adopt the dictionary form of catalogue, and that is to beware of "short cuts;" such will, I feel assured, infallibly prove only pitfalls. And I would further venture on the warning that to follow what is called sometimes "rule of thumb," that is tiding over some imaginary difficulty by an unlawful expedient, or now employing one device, now another, antagonistic or inconsistent, not to say clumsy or slovenly, can never turn out

an advantage, ultimately or "in the long run," either to the compiler or to the public who are to use the catalogue. I feel indeed convinced that if any of the systematic stages be "skipped," or methodical exactitude be once departed from, that very case will assuredly crop up again and on a future occasion prove a break in the symmetry and an interruption in the continuity, when several catalogues or supplements would come to be mutually amalgamated, either for a card catalogue or, as we call it in our library, a desk catalogue, that is one continuous catalogue formed by intercalation of the entries from several by aid of scizzors and paste. On the other hand be ever consistent, eschew "short cuts," abjure "rule of thumb," regard the breach of the dictum "like case like rule" as a crime, and the component items of supplement after supplement will be found to readily intercalate and naturally incorporate, it might be said, spontaneously to fuse, with the continuously longer and longer growing general alphabet, *ad infinitum*,—forming one continuous, harmonious, thoroughly homogeneous and exactly correlated organic whole. The combination of many supplements would prove as symmetrical in its new entirety as each component once was in and for itself. The only thing requiring attention in the process of such amalgamation is to eliminate such cross entries as would find themselves already provided for, once for all, in the main general alphabet. It does not appear that the "author catalogue" solely, followed by a grand "tree of knowledge," with references backwards therefrom to the pages of the former, would be capable of being thus "cut up" and perpetually intercalated, at least without much clumsy and awkward patching.

It might be supposed by some that if a given library be but small there is not such necessity, nay that it might be even advisable not, to descend to minute sub-division; but the smallest library will one day grow large—that is the look-out of all librarians—and I would hence strongly advise the commencement to be made on the most exact principles, and all will harmonise, for ever. A system once begun cannot readily be (if at all) expanded or extended at pleasure.

The objection is certainly sometimes made to classed catalogues of libraries that an inquirer finds it difficult to know under what nominal subject-heading he should seek for the works or for the information which he requires. He thinks of a preconceived subject-name, searches for it, and it may be finds no such heading, and too speedily comes to the conclusion that the catalogue contains no work of the nature or bearing desired. Hence the necessity for cross references, as mentioned, from all the synonymous subject-names that might be thought of by a visitor with no time to waste, to that one which, once for all, is adopted. Thus, to take a few examples at random, from "armorial bearings," "arms," "coats of arms," "crests," "mottoes," "shields" to "heraldry"; from "darwinism," "descent," "development theory," "natural selection," "origin of species," "survival of the fittest" to "evolution (*of organic species*)"; from "employers and employed," "labour question," "labouring classes," "wages question," "working classes" to "capital and labour"; from "histrionics," "theatre," "theatricals" to "stage"; from "plays" to "drama" and to "stage"; from "moral philosophy" to "ethics"; from "natural philosophy" to "physics"; from "agrarian question," "rent," "tenancy of land" to "landlord and tenant"; from "lathe" to "turning"; from "phytology," "plants," "vegetable kingdom" to "botany"; from "liverworts" to "hepaticæ"; from "animal kingdom," "animals," "beasts," "brutes" to "zoology"; from "polystomata," "porifera" to "spongia"; from "birds," "ornithology" to "aves."

And, in relation to these latter—the classes and subdivisions of the animal and vegetable kingdom—in discussing this point, some librarians have urged that they would prefer to use, for instance, the heading "birds," rather than that of "aves.' One might be disposed to acquiesce if there were really not so very many great groups and classes of both animals and plants of high biological importance, which have no English or colloquial name at all—nay, not even an "-ology"—and hence, in order to maintain a strict uniformity of method and procedure, it is surely better to employ the systematic class-name in *all* cases, and which, indeed, a biologist would be by far the most likely first of all to refer to. But, in fact, just to take the example of the last heading mentioned, namely, "birds" (which, indeed, in order to meet those who might be impelled first to refer thereto, should, admittedly, be there), the references thereunder would really come to stand thus: "Birds, *see* aves; *see also* cage birds, ostrich farming, pigeons, poultry; *also* cock fighting, game, hawking, shooting; *also* costume, feathers; *also* museums, oology, taxidermy, zoological gardens; *also* cookery." Thus, the inquirer, whether interested in "our feathered friends" from an ornithological, economic, domestic, gastronomic, utilitarian, ornamental, or sporting point of view, should he think of the word "birds" first, is quickly led aright. But had he thought of any of the other headings mentioned above or several others besides, more or less kindred, *first*, he would have been equally led aright, as for instance, "ornithology," "zoology," as well as "aviary," "barndoor fowl," "domestic animals," "domestic economy," "field sports," "fowl," "migration," "nidification," "pets," "singing birds," "sporting," "vertebrata," "water birds," "wild fowl."

There are positively only two objections against the dictionary catalogue by author, title, and subject, in the remotest degree worth mentioning by way of refuting. One of these is that its length is added to, as compared to a catalogue by authors only. This, in itself, I can only rejoin, amounts to no valid objection whatever. It is just as easy, almost more easy, to seek and find what one wants, were the catalogue even ten times as long as it ever could amount to. The inquirer looks for what he is in quest of (author, title, subject) by its place in the alphabet, under first syllable, precisely as he would for a word in the dictionary, and practically, almost it might be said physically, *doesn't see* the other entries, save only just so far as to be intuitively aware they are not what *he* wants, and his eye runs heedlessly past what, perhaps some other time and for another purpose, other ends in view, he may gladly allow it to rest on. As to any objection connected with the compilation of the catalogue, it is just as easy to enter a work under one heading as another—under the narrowest as under the very broadest heading,—entered it must be *somewhere*. The other objection is that the increased amount of printing adds to the cost—a real objection, *quantum valeat*—but I urge that it is one which is greatly more than met by the consequent vastly increased usefulness of the library, and the great public benefit and satisfaction resulting. Each volume, as it reposes on the shelf, is made to cry out and say: "Here I am, try me, I may perhaps serve your need."

Surely the day has gone by, long ago, when libraries were regarded as accumulations of books merely for the learned few, who indeed probably need no guide to their own specialities. Now our great public libraries are rightly looked upon rather as repositories of instruction for the inquiring masses, many of them amongst the juniors, destined probably, some of them, some day, to be learned specialists themselves, and to advance knowledge. The most recondite and skilled specialist to-day was a young and raw tyro

once, and could, no doubt, remember the time when he would not have despised a classed catalogue of a great library, had such a useful adjunct been in existence in days further back,—nay, even the most accomplished adept might, and I know, often does, find the lists of his own specialities, ready made to his hand, of very great practical utility. But even though *he can* afford to disdain such aid, let him not grudge those elements of the catalogue, which indeed may be of no particular use to *him*, or other items thereof which he may be pleased even to regard as simply in his way, to others, to whom practice and experience daily and hourly prove such to be of the very greatest value and the most essential and welcome assistance.

SOME NEW BOOKS.[1]

"The Letters and Journal of W. Stanley Jevons," have been edited by his wife, and form a very interesting record of a useful and laborious life. Those who had the pleasure of knowing Mr. Jevons will not be surprised to find ample evidence of his amiable character. But even those who knew him well will be struck by the abundant evidence of the unity of purpose and the quiet persistence, which are here shown to have been veiled beneath a modest and retiring exterior. The volume contains several references to the Library Association, in whose work Mr. Jevons took great interest. In an appendix is contained a full list of his writings.

The translation of Scherer's "History of German Literature," which has been Englished by Mrs. Conybeare, and "edited" by Professor Max Müller, has been somewhat severely criticized. It certainly is a little unfortunate that in a book published in two volumes and an expensive form, it should have been thought necessary to retrench much of the original, without any warning to the reader. No doubt the style of many German writers would be improved by condensation, but Scherer's work is one of sufficient importance to deserve a full translation. A very valuable feature of the book is the "Bibliographical Appendix" (vol ii. pp. 353-403). Altogether it is a book which should be found in every library.

Reginald Scot's curious "Discoverie of Witchcraft" has been reprinted under the editorship of Dr. Brinsley Nicholson in an edition of 250 copies only. It is not a facsimile, for the original edition was in black letter, and the orthography has been to some extent modernized, but the editor tells us that great pains have been taken to secure correctness. It seems unfortunate that when the editor has taken so much pains, he should not have been better served by his printer. We have noticed more errors than are noticed in the list of *errata*, and in particular the Greek is terribly misprinted.

[1] The Letters and Journal of W. Stanley Jevons. Edited by his wife. London: Macmillan & Co., 1886. 8vo. pp. xii. 473. Price 14s.

A History of German Literature, by W. Scherer. Translated from the third German edition, by Mrs. F. C. Conybeare. Edited by F. Max Müller. Oxford: at the Clarendon Press, 1886. 2 vols. 8vo, pp. xv. 401; vii. 425. Price 21s.

The Discoverie of Witchcraft, by Reginald Scot, Esquire. Being a reprint of the first edition published in 1584. Edited by Brinsley Nicholson, M.D. London: Elliot Stock, 1886. 4to. pp. xlviii., xxxix. 570. 250 copies printed. Price £2.

Hazell's Annual Cyclopædia 1886. . . . . Edited by E. D. Price, F.G.S. London: Hazell, Watson & Viney, Ld.; Hodder & Stoughton, 1886. 8vo. pp. xii. 566. Price 3s. 6d.

The Literary Manual, or a complete guide to authorship. By Percy Russell. London: Literary Society, 1886. 8vo. pp. viii. 234. Price 2s. 6d.

Dr. Nicholson has added a long and useful introduction, and four series of what he somewhat affectedly calls 'Notings,' as well as a glossary. Some of the pains thus bestowed would perhaps have been better applied in the making of an index.

"Hazell's Annual Cyclopædia" of which we have received the first issue, edited by Mr. E. D. Price, contains a great quantity of information in a very compact and convenient form. It may be briefly described as a dictionary of newspaper topics. The list of noms de plume requires careful revision, and we observe that the *Library Chronicle* is spoken of as the *Literary Chronicle*. The book is a marvel of cheapness and bids fair to hold a permanent place among works of reference.

Mr. Percy Russell appears to have thought it strange that "while every other legitimate pursuit has a special technology, literature has no manual of practical Literary Technics," and has attempted to fill the gap. He tells us that he speaks "of course, of the working technics of literature, whereby an amateur might become professional." We confess that we have never seen a piece of work to which the term 'amateurish' might be more properly applied than Mr. Russell's book. He requires a good deal of the 'amateur,' who proposes to become 'professional.' He "should in addition to what may be assumed as his or her normal general information, possess a good knowledge of the principal Greek, Roman, Oriental and especially the Mediæval writers." It does *not* appear to be essential that he should know how to spell the names of these writers with any approach to correctness. It would be difficult to find in or out of print a more plentiful crop of the most ludicrous errors than are to be found in what Mr. Russell says "may be taken as the practical bibliography of the author." Mr. Russell, we fear, has much to learn before he should undertake to teach.

The Library Chronicle.

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is issued on the 15th of the month, and communications, books for review, etc., intended for the forthcoming number should be addressed, not later than the 10th of the month, to the Hon. Editor,* ERNEST C. THOMAS, *care of Messrs. J. Davy & Sons, 137, Long Acre, W.C.*

The attention of librarians and library committees, of publishers and booksellers, is called to the advantages of the CHRONICLE *(which represents at least 300 libraries) as an advertising medium. Advertisements of Library Vacancies, and of Books Wanted, or Duplicates for Sale or Exchange by Libraries are inserted at low rates.*

Members of the Library Association whose subscription for the current year has been paid are entitled to receive the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association cannot be responsible for the views expressed by the contributors to the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association.

JUNE MONTHLY MEETING.

The June Monthly Meeting was held on Friday, June 4th, at 7.30 p.m., at Gray's Inn Library, Mr. H. R. Tedder in the chair.

A resolution was passed expressing regret at the death of Mr H. A. Eliot.

The following gentlemen having been duly proposed at the previous meeting, were elected Members: — Mr. Albert Butcher, and Mr. H. N. Stevens.

A paper was read by the Hon. Sec. on "The Decimal Classification revised." After a discussion a vote of thanks was passed to the writer of the paper, and the meeting adjourned.

By a resolution of the Council the Examination for Library Assistants has been postponed to the first Tuesday in August. Candidates should send in their names to Hon. Sec. by the 20th July.

The Council has suspended the monthly meetings until the Autumn.

A Special General Council was held at Gray's Inn Library, on June 11th.

The following were appointed to be Examiners for the present year: In languages, Mr. J. W. Bone and Mr. Robert Harrison; in literature, Mr. Chancellor Christie and Dr. R. Garnett; in bibliography and classification, Mr. W. E. A. Axon and Mr. H. R. Tedder; in library management, Mr. J. D. Mullins and Mr. W. H. K. Wright.

A member of the Association having offered a prize of three guineas annually for three years, for an essay on some subject in librarianship or bibliography, the Council have accepted the offer and propose as the subject of this year's competition, "The Extension of the Free Libraries Acts to Small Places." Essays should be sent in not later than August 20, to the Hon. Sec., 2, South Square, Gray's Inn.

The Council have decided that the Annual Meeting this year shall be held in London.

Library Notes and News.

CHATHAM.—On May 31st, on his retirement from the position of Cashier at Chatham Dockyard, Mr. R. G. Hobbes presented mementos of their connection to nearly all the members of his staff. Mr. Hobbes is well-known for his interest in the question of Free Libraries, and his attempts to secure their establishment in Chatham and Rochester.

DOUGLAS, ISLE OF MAN.—Mr. J. de Maine-Browne has been appointed Librarian of the new Free Library, which, it is expected, will be opened in the course of a few weeks. If we may judge from the correspondence which has been actively going on in the local papers, the inhabitants are exhibiting a lively interest in the new institution. The library is under the Free Libraries Act, and in addition to the income to be derived from the rate, will have the benefit of a fund of about £1,000 for its initial requirements.

HAWICK.—The Public Library, which was opened in temporary premises in 1879, has just been removed to the new municipal buildings. The rooms, which are on the second floor, are reached by an easy stair in five flights and 5 ft. in width. Immediately opposite the entrance is a small work or store room, 13 ft. by 11 ft. 6 in., while close to the main entrance and on the same side, is the door

of the library, a room measuring 32 ft. 6 in. by 18 ft. 9 in. and 14 ft. in height. The space for the public is divided off by a handsome counter in pitch pine, extending across the room, and arranged for three of Cotgreave's indicators, with a book wicket and issue desk between them, while along the wall facing the counter is a long desk, at which readers can consult the catalogues and fill up the application forms. The space behind the counter is shelved all round the walls, and the centre of the floor is occupied by double standard book-cases, 8 ft. high, and so arranged that passages may be left either in the centre or at the sides, as may be desired. The shelving is fitted with Tonks' patent fittings, and will accommodate over 16,000 volumes. Behind the lending library is a small reference room, 17 ft. 6 in. by 12 ft., with wall shelving, 8 ft. high, the under shelves being deeper and enclosed with sliding glass doors. A door opens from this room into a small lobby, from which doors also open into the librarian's room and the reading room, and from this lobby a speaking tube enables the Librarian to communicate with the police department on the ground floor in the event of any troublesome visitors. The reading room is a fine apartment, with an open roof, 22 ft. to ridge, with ornamental principals, spiral king-posts and struts, all of dressed St. Petersburg redwood, the floor containing an area of 990 square ft. The furnishings comprise both tables and reading stands, the latter having patent newspaper holders and arm rests. The walls of the library and reading room are lined with St. Petersburg whitewood in narrow widths and varnished, which gives them a bright and cheerful appearance. Both rooms have fireplaces, with massive marble mantel-pieces and tile hearths, the whole building being also heated by hot water pipes. In this corridor is a fire cock, with hose attached, ready for immediate use. The Public Libraries Acts were adopted in Hawick unanimously at a public meeting called for the purpose, and about £1,400 was subscribed to provide accommodation and start the Library. After providing a supply of books and fitting up the temporary premises, £900 was invested to form the nucleus of a building fund, and when the Town Council decided to erect a new Town Hall, an arrangement was made to include the Library and Reading Room, on condition that the Library Committee paid over the sum invested to the burgh.

LEEDS.—Mr. W. A. Howgate has lent to the Corporation for an exhibition which opened on Whit Monday a small ornithological collection and a collection of engravings. A committee of the Corporation has been appointed to consider the question of erecting an art gallery. It is proposed to turn the present reading room into a sculpture gallery, and to expend about £8,000 in altering and adding to the buildings, and to defray this expenditure by setting aside some £800 a year out of the penny rate. It is obvious that this will have the effect of diminishing the amount to be expended upon books, which, so far as we are aware, is not at present excessive. No doubt this will be borne in mind by the authorities.

LONDON LIBRARY. — The forty-fifth annual meeting was held on May 27th, Sir Henry Barkly in the chair. The vacancies among the officers have been filled up by the election of Lord Tennyson as President, Sir Henry Barkly and the Dean of Llandaff as Vice-Presidents, and Sir John Lubbock as Trustee.

TRURO. — *Truth* having made some remarks on the modest salary offered by the Free Library Committee in advertising for a librarian, a correspondent writes to say that they have been fortunate enough to secure the services of a colonel.

WARRINGTON. — Extensive alterations have been made at the Museum and Public Library, which include considerable structural changes.

Lord Crawford's "Bibliotheca Lindesiana," collected by the late Earl, is about to be dispersed by auction. Lord Crawford will retain the mathematical library of 16,000 volumes.

The *Athenæum* says that "The Nestor of English philology in Germany, Prof. Mätzner of Berlin, now eighty years old, wishes to dispose of his valuable library, consisting of the best works on the philology of the European languages in general, and of a large collection of works on English philology in particular.

Library Catalogues and Reports.

Barrow-in-Furness Free Public Library. Catalogue of the Books in the Juvenile Lending Department. Compiled by John Frowde, Chief Librarian. Barrow-in-Furness, 1886. 8vo, pp. 36.

A neatly printed double-column catalogue of a collection of 1200 volumes, which appear to be very carefully chosen.

Leeds (Free) Public Library. Catalogue of the Central Lending Library...Class G. Juvenile Literature. Leeds, 1886. 8vo, pp. 77.

Another of the Catalogues of "Juveniles" now becoming so common. Mr. Yates's list is more "juvenile" than Mr. Frowde's, if we may judge by the fact that the former omits Scott, while the latter includes him; Mr. Yates, indeed, does not include even Dickens.

The Birmingham Library. Annual Meeting. Report and Proceedings. January 27th, 1886. La. 8vo, pp. 16, wrapper.

The number of subscribers for the year was 1,459, and the total receipts £1,681 10s. 7d., the expenditure being £1,531 0s. 10d. Though this is the largest membership in the history of the Library, the Committee do not think it fairly proportionate to the population. The number of volumes added was 984, besides bound periodicals. The Committee regret that the response made by the proprietors has not been such as to justify the proposed extension.

Fifty-second Annual Report of the Burnley Mechanics' Institute, adopted at a General Meeting of Members, January 30th, 1886. Burnley, 1886. 8vo, pp. 31.

For the first time in its history the number of members has reached over 2,000. The library contains 12,906 volumes, of which 551 were added during the year; the total issues were 36,065, over one-half being fiction. The classes carried on at the Institute and at eight branches have produced very satisfactory results. The income was £2,047 16s. 10d., and the expenditure £2,006 8s. 3d.

Eighth Annual Report of the Committee of the Chester Free Public Library, 1885-6. * * * Chester...8vo, pp. 13.

The issues were one-tenth larger than in the year before. The number of ticket-holders is stationary. 381 vols. were added to the Reference Library, bringing up the total stock to 11,920 vols. The News and Reading Rooms were increasingly popular, and extended accommodation is called for. There were 815 ticket-holders; 447 tickets were issued. 44,618 vols. were issued to borrowers, and 1,447 to readers in the Reference Library. The year's income (including a balance of £86) was £794, and the expenditure £629.

* * * Ealing Free Public Library. The Third Annual Report of the Free Library Committee, 1885-6...8vo, pp. 16.

The continued success of the Library is reported. During the year 92,590 vols. were issued from the Lending Library, an increase of 16,727 on the issues of 1884-5. The issues in fiction decreased 4 per cent. during the year. About 500 vols. were presented, of which 275 were bequeathed by Miss Butcher. The present stock is 4,350 vols. in the Lending Library, and 811 vols. in the Reference Library. A building will shortly be erected, it is hoped by the end of 1887. The Science and Art Classes were attended by 65 students, the subjects taken being "Art," "Building Construction," "Practical Geometry," and "Physiology." The annual income (including a balance of £86) was £624, and the expenditure £495.

Report of the Mitchell Library, Glasgow, 1885. Glasgow, 1886. 8vo, pp. 52.

The continued increase in the attendance taxes the accommodation to the utmost. The number of vols. in the Library at the end of the year was 62,382, of which 6,886 were added during the year. The issues were 468,056, an increase of 32,914, besides the use of current periodicals. The experiment of binding in pigskin has been tried with satisfactory results. There are separate reports as to the special collections, which are rapidly growing.

Borough of Portsmouth. Free Public Library. Second Annual Report of the Free Public Library and News Room....1885-86. Portsea....8vo, pp. 13.

During the year 4,029 vols. were added to the Library by donation and purchase, including a gift of 1,500 from the Rev. H. Hawkes. The stock is 11,279 vols. There are

4,051 members. The issues are reported as 325,805 vols., or a daily average issue of 1,074 vols.—an increase on the previous year's daily average of 633. The issues are reported as greater than those of any Free Public Lending Library at Liverpool, Birmingham, Manchester, Sheffield, Nottingham, Bradford, Salford, or Newcastle, although the stock of books at Portsmouth is much smaller than at any of the Central and some of the Branch Libraries at those important towns. The receipts for fines were £28 10s. and for Catalogues £33.

Free Public Library, Richmond, Surrey. Fifth Annual Report of the Committee, 1885-86....8vo, pp. 20.

The reported stock was 11,952 vols., of which 4,132 are in the Reference Library. Of these 608 were added during the year. For home reading 83,223 were issued, an increase of 6,084 on the previous year. The Reference Library issues were 7,339 vols. against 6,093 in 1884-5. The stock of books is inadequate to the wants of the borrowers, of whom there are 3,416. The daily average attendance in the News Room is computed at 1,000. Two vols. only were unaccounted for at the stock-taking. The building is being extended. The Treasury has lent the Vestry £1,100 for a period of 30 years. A voluntary rate to meet the annual repayment of £127 11s. 8d. realized £179 17s. 11d. 824 out of 3,958 ratepayers contributed. Another such rate of 1d. in the pound will be asked for during the present year.

The Fifteenth Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Public Library of the Borough of Rochdale, for the year ending March 31st, 1886. * * * Rochdale. 8vo, pp. 19.

The present stock is 38,517 vols., of which 1,681 were acquired during the year. The total issues were 220,121 vols., being an increase of 42,277 vols. on the issues of the preceding year. Of these 141,847 vols. were from the Lending Library, 44,240 in the Reference Library, and 34,034 from the Boys' Library. The daily average attendance in the Reference and Boys' Libraries for the seven Sundays on which they were open was 761, and daily average issue of 511 vols. The attendance in the Reference Library and Reading Rooms on February 20 was 4,911. The daily average issues since the opening of the Libraries in 1872 were 506 vols. The year's income (including a loan of £500) was £1,631, and expenditure £1,721.

Record of Bibliography and Library Literature.

Catalogue of the printed maps, plans, and charts in the British Museum. Printed by order of the Trustees, sold at the British Museum, &c. London, 1885. 2 vols. 4to. Price £6 6s.

This very important catalogue chiefly consists of atlases, maps and charts, published separately, and represents the MS. catalogue of maps in 323 volumes, the two printed folio volumes of maps and plans in the Royal Library, and the MS. catalogue of charts in the same collection. As far as possible the orthography used in A. Keith Johnston's *General Dictionary of Geography* (1877), has been adopted, with the exception of Indian names, which follow the spelling of Dr. Hunter's *Imperial Gazetteer of India* (1881). In cases not provided for in these two works, the most generally accepted forms have been taken, and in the case of Hungarian and Bohemian geographical names the recognized German forms have been used. For the Admiralty charts of England, France and other countries the official numbers of the sections and charts used in the catalogues published by the several Admiralties are given. The catalogue contains the most complete list of the works of Ptolemy, Ortelius and Mercator to be found in any printed catalogue.

Recollections of Mr. James Lenox, of New York, and the Formation of his Library. By Henry Stevens, of Vermont. London: Henry Stevens & Son, 1886. Sm. 8vo. pp. x, 211. Price 6s.

The matter of the present volume will already have been perused by our readers in the Liverpool TRANSACTIONS, but they will find it well worth while to obtain the present reprint for the daintiness of its manner as well as for the portraits which have been added to it, and the few added and unfinished lines to which their writer's death has given a melancholy interest. The accuracy of the printing is what we should expect, and forms a refreshing change from the slovenly work of people who call themselves bibliographers before they have learned how to correct a proof-sheet.

Biographical Dictionary of Musicians: with a Bibliography of English Writings on Music. By James D. Brown, Mitchell Library, Glasgow. Gardner: Paisley and London, 1886. 8vo, pp. vi. 637. Price 15s.

Mr. Brown, who is a senior assistant in the Mitchell Library, has produced a very convenient handbook of reference. The body of the work is followed by a bibliographical subject index—"a tentative index of the principal subjects and works in the English literature of music," including a list of musical periodicals.

We have received the first part of "A Handbook to the Literature of General Biography" by the late Edward Edwards and the Rev. Charles Hole. It is printed and published by Mr. G. Henry Brittain, at Ventnor, and the book is to be issued in eight parts, and in an edition of 250 copies, price 3*s.* 6*d.* each part. This instalment contains an introduction on biography, its varieties and its sources, and on the literary history of collections of general biography.

A long letter from Mr. Cotgreave on "Free Libraries under the Act and their Promotion" appears in the *National Review* for June.

Part IV of Mr. J. P. Edmond's book on "The Aberdeen Printers" completes the work, and Mr. Edmond has added, by way of introduction, a series of "Historical Notices."

The fifth issue of the "Q. P. Index Annual" reminds us how much more is being done in the matter of useful and practical indexing on the other side of the Atlantic than on this. This issue indexes some 53 periodical publications.

Mr. W. R. Credland has reprinted an article "On Indexing and Indexes" contributed to the *Manchester Quarterly* of April last. The nuisance of unindexed or inadequately indexed books shows no sign of abating, but rather the contrary, and we should like to see the Association take some active steps in this matter.

Cassell's Magazine for May contained an article on "The Bodleian Library."

The April Bulletin of the Maimonides Library is devoted entirely to a list of books, pamphlets and articles on "Education" contained in the Library.

The well known Dutch bibliographer and antiquary Antonius von der Linde, who was obliged to leave his country because of the ill-will excited by his destruction of the Coster myth, in 1870, is bringing out at Berlin a "Geschichte der Erfindung der Buchdruckerkunst." The work will make three handsome volumes. Vol. I is out.

A "Bibliographie Parisienne," compiled by M. Paul Lacombe, is announced by P. Rouquette. It will describe the works of contemporary French writers and the accounts of travellers dealing with the manners and customs of Parisians from the beginning of the seventeenth century to the present time.

The national library (Vittorio-Emanuele) at Rome is bringing out a *Bollettino* of all modern foreign acquisitions of the public libraries throughout the kingdom.

We are glad to see that Mr. Robert Bowes has reprinted for private circulation his "Biographical Notes on the University Printers from the Commencement of Printing in Cambridge to the Present Time." In the compass of some sixty pages Mr. Bowes has collected much interesting information, and has added 107 examples of ornaments and initial letters.

There is no difficulty in the identification of the "Old Book Lover," who reprints "The Best Books: a list for the guidance of general readers," from the *Sheffield Independent*, prefaced by a paper on the subject, which originally appeared in the *Manchester City News*. No man is better qualified to advise general readers than Mr. Alexander Ireland, and his approved literary taste is a sufficient guarantee that his list will not be unduly utilitarian. Few, if any, books will be found which are not deserving of their place. As Mr. Ireland's enumeration considerably exceeds the hundred to which the participators in the recent discussion were obliged to confine

themselves, it cannot be expected that all should be equally deserving, and it would, we think, have been well to have distinguished between the absolutely essential and the merely desirable. It also seems hardly enough to merely recommend a selection from Bulwer's novels, for instance, with no precise indication of the novels to be selected. In the main, however, the list is most judiciously drawn up, and we should be glad to hear that it was extensively circulated among public libraries and reading rooms. Its value is increased by a brief appendix in American, French, and German books, pointing out the chief translations from the latter.

Notes and Queries.

ANONYMS AND PSEUDONYMS.—*Irish History for English Readers* (Vizetelly), was written by Miss F. Mabel Robinson, who adopted the pen-name of "William Stephenson Greggs."

The author of *Don't* is Mr. O. B. Bunce. J. P. B.

LIBRARY BUILDINGS.—I beg to supplement my note on this subject in our *Chronicle* for April by calling attention to the "Index to the Pictures and Plans of Library Buildings to be found in the Boston Public Library and elsewhere," which appears in the Winter number (1886) of the *Bulletin of the Boston Public Library*. This excellent list was compiled by Mr. James L. Whitney, who was assisted by Mr. Melvil Dewey and Mr. C. W. Sutton. It will be published, with additions, in the *Library Chronicle* before long. J. P. B.

Correspondence.

LIBRARY STATISTICS.

Leeds Public Library, 1st June, 1886.

I have read with surprise a letter on the Statistics of Public Libraries in your current number, and for several reasons feel that I am the principal offender in question.

I believe I was the first to initiate the table of comparisons in this country, giving briefly, as you know, in our annual report, name of town, population, number of volumes in the reference, central lending and branch libraries, and total number of issues in the same, and the annual expenditure. To get this epitomised information (which I think might now with advantage be placed once a year in the "Library Chronicle," and remove the onus from a non-editor) I have felt obliged to address the questions each year to my co-librarians, asking them to fill in the columns. Notwithstanding this attempt to get authoritative returns, a fellow member of our Library Council on the issue of a recent report sent a somewhat damaging letter to our local papers, pointing out that the amount quoted as being spent upon his library was inaccurate. Another one complains in the previous number of the "Chronicle" that his library has been omitted from the table. Upon enquiry I find that he himself is to blame; in 1883 this list of questions was sent to him in the usual course, and he omitted to reply in time for press, therefore his library was left out that year, and has unfortunately been overlooked since.

Upon referring to my last annual report, it will be seen that instead of being able to "glorify" my own library, Leeds stands a very poor fourth in its issues, in the most important section, viz:—the reference library.

In addition to the above, we have at the present time an attempt being made to appropriate a sixth part of our library rate for the purpose of forming an Art Gallery, and to provide exact information for my committee to act upon, I had the "unconscionable hardihood" to make application to the other great provincial libraries.

"By statistical enquiry and research and the employment of the numerical method "in marshalling the figures collected with scientific accuracy and precision, we may

"learn what are the actual conditions of our social life, of our wealth and prosperity, "and their relation to our happiness or misery, so that we may educe from them the "laws which will enable us to guide, direct, and control them in such manner as may "lead to the common good of all."—Sir R. Rawson at opening of Statistical Society's Meeting.

In conclusion, I regret to find a librarian writing an anonymous letter.

JAMES YATES.

Aberdeen, June, 1886.

The fallaciousness of statistics, and especially of the inferences apt to be drawn from them, is too well-known to need insistence, and therefore it is with something more than a feeling of suspicion that one must regard their recent rapid growth in favour with librarians. There might, it is true, be less cause for uneasiness on this score, were there any assurance that those who fancy such things, would be honest and industrious enough always to suggest the special qualifying circumstances which alone give any real value or interest to such statistical returns. But apparently this is too much to expect from your ordinary statistician, whose ways are so often "peculiar."

My object, however, in addressing you here is not to discourse at large on the matter of statistics, but to direct attention to one particular development of them which has doubtless been fostered by the recent craze to find out what people do read, or might and should read. It is so easy for any librarian, by referring to his daily issues, to compile returns of the number of times any particular work or any particular author's works have been out among his readers, that he is under a strong temptation to gratify popular curiosity in this cheap way. But has he reflected himself, or led the public to reflect, that no legitimate inference can be drawn as to the relative popularity of authors or works, unless the public have had equal opportunities of reading them? If he has a sufficient number of copies of Miss Braddon's and George Eliot's works on his shelves to meet all possible demands by their readers, then the issues of the two within a certain period would be a sure index, for that period at least, of their relative popularity. But as a matter of fact no library is thus provided with regard to any popular authors, nor, indeed, with many authors that might become popular if they had the chance. The consequence is that very many readers, disappointed in getting the work they want, have, often much against their will, and if they are not to go empty-handed away, to take out the works, and so swell the issue of some author for whom they care little or nothing. If any librarian seized with a passion for gauging his readers' tastes will tell us how often certain works have been asked for by them, or if he works by the indicator system, how often they have been desired, then he will have the satisfaction of furnishing material which may be interesting, and is at least trustworthy.

A. W. ROBERTSON.

POSTSCRIPT.

It has been decided at a Special General Council, that the Annual Meeting this year shall be held in London. It is hoped that the principal Librarian of the British Museum will consent to be our President, and it is anticipated that Mr. Bond's engagements will require that the Meeting should be held towards the end of September. One advantage attending a meeting in London is that there are not quite so many distractions in the way of local engagements, and there is more time therefore, and a solid and continuous work. We should very much like to see the questions of classification and of statistics in connection with Free Public Libraries taken up and settled at this year's meeting, at which reasonable time could be found for their discussion.

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The Library Chronicle.

THE LIBRARIES OF TRURO,

By the Rev. Canon A. P. Moor, M.A.

[We give here the substance of the account given to the Plymouth Meeting by the Rev. Canon Moor, of Truro, who is President of the Cornwall Library, Hon. Librarian of the Diocesan Library, and Vice-President of the Royal Institution.]

APART from the fact that Truro is practically the centre of the neighbouring county the libraries of that city are scarcely of sufficient importance to deserve notice in the midst of such papers and discussions as have been brought before our meetings. Yet it is much to the credit of a small county town, of about 11 or 12,000 inhabitants, that it has no less than five libraries, open to the public, either free or for a very moderate subscription.

I will mention these libraries in order of the date of their foundation.

I. The Cornwall Library. Even in times as exciting as the early years of the French Revolution, some gentlemen in and around Truro were able to give their attention to the work of founding a library for the county. The first move was made in the year 1792, and a considerable sum of money must have been contributed at once, as the greater number of the books appear to have been acquired at this time. These consist of such standard works as we might fairly expect to find in a public library, and these give to the library the general character which has been continued to the present day. The fullest departments are Biography and Travels, and these have been considerably increased by recent additions, though our powers of purchasing are much diminished by the expenses of the reading room attached to the library, which absorbs much of our income, which is derived from about 200 members, at one guinea each. In this way we are at a great disadvantage as compared with the Library at Penzance, or with the Proprietary Library at Plymouth; in both of which the reading room is supported from a separate fund.

II. The Library of the Royal Institution of Cornwall. This Society was founded in the year 1818, chiefly, I believe, by the exertions of Sir Charles Lemon, whose scientific attainments, and his intimacy with the literary men of his day, eminently fitted him to be the leader in such an undertaking. The departments especially chosen for the work of the Society appear to have been Science and Archæology.

There is a very fair museum in connection with the Institution; and the library, as might be expected, consists chiefly of serial works, under the various names of "Journals," "Transactions," "Proceedings," and the like, most of these having been obtained either by "exchange" for our own publications, or by grants from many learned societies. Endeavours have throughout been made to illustrate, both in the library and museum, the special productions or antiquities of Cornwall. The number of volumes is about 1,500, with a slow but steady increase.

III. The third library that I shall mention is that known as "Bishop Phillpotts' Library." This originated in a bequest of Henry, Bishop of Exeter, which took effect in the year 1866, by which a portion of his library was given to the "Clergy of Cornwall," to be the nucleus of a clerical library for the county of Cornwall, which then formed a part of the large diocese of Exeter. The number of volumes then received amounted to about 2,000. The condition was annexed that a room should be provided for their reception, which resulted in the erection of the present library in connection with the group of public rooms, which owe their existence mainly to the energy of the late Dr. Barham. The next addition of importance was the theological portion of the library of the Rev. James Ford, late Prebendary of Exeter. This portion, given during his life, consists of about 1,200 volumes, chiefly the works of English divines, many of the volumes being enriched by MS. notes of the donor. Next came additions, to about the same number of volumes, from various sources, as "Dr. Bray's Associates," from a clerical library in Truro, previously existing, and other gifts. This was the condition of the library for several years, until in the year 1884 it received an accession, which at once raised it to a high place among the cathedral libraries of England. The Reverend Franke Parker, Rector of Luffincott, in the diocese of Exeter, by his will gave to the "Bishopric of Cornwall," the foundation of which he foresaw to be not far distant, the whole of his very valuable theological library. It is this gift which alone, I feel, justifies me in bringing before this meeting anything like a detailed account of the Libraries of Truro. I preface my necessarily brief account of it by the remark that the donor was the Rector of a poor parish, with but moderate private means; but, by steady devotion to his purpose, and by careful economy (which some might have characterized as parsimony), he succeeded during his long life in gathering together one of the most considerable Theological Libraries ever formed as a private collection. The Biblical and Patristical portions are especially remarkable. Of the former of these the most striking, though by no means the most valuable work, is an enormous series of volumes formed by profuse interleaving with engravings of Scripture scenes and subjects of a copy of Macknight's great Bible. The result is a set of 63 volumes, each very cumbrous; the entire work weighing thirteen hundred weight. In Polyglotts the library is especially rich; the gem of the series being a copy of the Polyglott of Cardinal Ximenes, generally known as the Complutensian, in the most perfect condition. It is perhaps the most wonderfully preserved copy in existence. Next comes a copy of the Antwerp Polyglott, in its original binding, with brass bosses and corners; then the Paris Polyglott on largest paper, and a fine copy of the London Polyglott of Bp. Walton. Other smaller and more recent Polyglotts are also found, as well as a very extensive series of Greek and Latin New Testaments, which I must not weary my hearers by describing. The Patristical portion of the library is equally complete, consisting of Benedictine editions, where these exist, or else the next best editions of each Father. Nearly as good is the collection of schoolmen and the writers of the later

middle age. What may be called the *apparatus criticus* of a Theological Library is also found in great completeness, as well as a good collection of "Concilia," together with the new edition of the Acta Sanctorum in 54 large folios. The entire bequest consisted of some 7,000 volumes, of which an unusually large proportion are in folio. I venture to dwell upon this bequest as showing what may be the result of steady purpose, even with limited means. I well remember my surprise when I was enabled to contrast the extreme simplicity of the original Rectory—two small cottages thrown into one—with the effect produced by the noble apartment, which had been eventually added for the reception of this much prized library. Its size, combined with the almost exclusive prevalence of folios on the shelves, gave one the idea that one was entering the library of a giant. One feels thankful that the grand idea of this fine old man—of forming, and then preserving, so noble a monument of his life—has been satisfactorily carried out, and a permanent home found for the library in exact accordance with his wishes. I must add the hope that ere long the collection will be more worthily lodged than is possible in the confined space at present available. May I add, in passing, a word of grateful acknowledgment to the surviving relatives, for the kindly manner in which they acquiesced in the carrying out the wishes of the testator. This noble accession raises the number of volumes in the Diocese Library to about 10,000. I have scarcely time to refer to several lesser, though still important gifts of books from the libraries of the late Rev. J. L. Galton, of St. Sidwell's, Exeter; of the late Rev. R. P. Warren, of Hyde Vicarage, near Fordingbridge (which included a fine copy of Dugdale's Monasticon); of the late Rev. Prebendary Barnes, of Probus; and of the late Canon Anson, of Windsor.

I must briefly refer to two smaller libraries lately formed in Truro; the Free Public Library begun in 1885, and that of the Church Institute, founded about a year earlier. Valuable gifts to the latter have been received from the libraries of the late Prebendary Barnes and Canon Anson, already mentioned in connection with the Diocesan Library.

THE DEVON AND EXETER INSTITUTION.[1]

By Edward Parfitt, Librarian.

In the early part of the present century a general movement appears to have taken place in the West of England to establish libraries and philosophical institutions. It is difficult, and perhaps impossible, to give a reason for this particular movement amongst the educated classes, but it was evidently the result of a want felt by them. The movement corresponds, to a certain extent, with that which we have seen in our own time; this latter movement, however, has been brought about by a different cause, the want of education amongst the poorer classes, and its object was to bring them up to the level of our continental neighbours, so that we should not be beaten in the race.

At the time these institutions were being established a great religious movement stirred the people of this country. Whether this had anything to do with the formation of these libraries I am not prepared to say, but Bristol appears to have taken the

[1] Read at the Plymouth Meeting, September, 1885.

lead, and to have established a library in 1773. Next followed Plymouth with its institution in 1810. The movement then spread to Exeter, when a number of gentlemen met together to found the Devon and Exeter Institution in 1813. Thence we again move on to Bristol, where was founded the Bristol Institution for the Advancement of Science, Literature, and the Arts, apparently upon the same lines as our Exeter Institution. In 1825 Bath followed, by establishing its Royal Literary and Scientific Institution, which was not merely for the studious, but for the inhabitants of Bath and her visitors generally, that they might be supplied with a library of reference, in every branch of science and literature. It was also designed to form a museum of antiquities and natural history.

The Devon and Exeter Institution was founded upon a still broader basis than the above, for, as the promoters of the scheme stated in their programme at their first meeting, it was "for promoting the general diffusion of science, literature and the arts, and for illustrating the natural and civil history of the county of Devon, and the history of the city of Exeter." The site is admirably suited to the requirements of such an institution, being in the Cathedral Close, and consequently quiet, there being no thoroughfare for vehicles. It was formerly the town mansion of the Courtenay family, whose arms may still be seen over the mantelpiece, as well as those of Bishop Courtenay, in the parlour of the librarian's house adjoining the institution. The two rooms in which the library is placed are each 40 ft. long by 30 ft. wide, and 20 ft. high. They are lighted by two dome lanterns; each room has a gallery running round it, the walls of which are partly filled with glass cases. These cases formerly contained objects of natural history, which in the course of time became decayed, and gave place to a very fair collection of ethnological specimens kindly presented to the institution by distinguished travellers—Capt. Sir Jas. Parry and the Rev. W. Scoresby amongst the number. The entomological collections were presented and arranged by Dr. Elford Leach, who occupied the post lately vacated at the British Museum by Sir Richard Owen.

On the establishment of the Albert Memorial Museum the greater part of these objects were removed thither, and their cases are now nearly filled with books. There are still two cases of fossils from the coal measures, and a large and valuable collection of minerals which must soon follow.

The reading-room, which is rather narrow, runs through the entire length of the front of the building; and is well-lighted, and has a pleasing prospect; namely, the Cathedral with its quiet surroundings, its trees and grass-plot.

Unfortunately for the proprietors of the institution, the actual building does not belong to them, but, by the present arrangement, to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. The premises were leased to the proprietors from the Dean and Chapter, whose property it was in 1813, for thirty-one years, renewable every ten years. On their entrance the proprietors paid down £1,000; then they had alterations to make in order to fit the building to their requirements, which cost them, from 1813 to 1820, £2,900 3s. 3d., and the purchase of books from the same dates £3,626. I need scarcely say that, to keep this institution and library abreast with the times, the proprietors have added, and are continually adding, to the collection of books, which now amounts to nearly 26,000 volumes.

In the formation of this library one primary object has been kept in view, and that is to make the collection a good one. In fact, selection rather than collection

has been aimed at, and a great deal of discretion has been exercised; therefore, with a few exceptions, no books but such as are works of reference are placed upon its shelves, and I may venture to assert that not many libraries of similar proportions will be found better furnished. We do not profess to go in for novelties or rarities in either binding or typography; the earliest printed book we possess is the *Biblia Sacra de Lyra*, 1498. We have the entire "Arian Controversy," which was carried on by several learned divines from 1708 to 1736, in 13 volumes; also the "Stillingfleet Controversy," which lasted from 1657 to 1700, in 41 volumes. We have also a very good copy of Purchas's *Pilgrims*, first edition, with the duplicate leaves as described by Lowndes; an entire set of the Royal Society's *Transactions*, and a work not very often found now, our old Exeter printer's *Universal Gazetteer*, printed and published in 1769, by Andrew Brice. In archæology and British topography we are tolerably representative. One special subject, which has claimed the attention of the Committee for some years past, is the collecting of all that appears to be valuable in the local literature and history of the three western counties; we also endeavour to secure all tracts that are likely to be of value, and up to the present our collection is bound in 150 volumes, comprising 1,500 tracts. Local newspapers occupy a considerable space; the earliest we possess is the *Exeter Mercury* 1714, and Brice's *Weekly Journal*, 1725-29. There is a break here in our series to 1813, which we have been unable to fill up, but from thence we go on to the present time.

Of light literature, such as novels and tales, with the exception of Scott's and Richardson's, all others were excluded until within the last few years. Now Thackeray, Dickens, Kingsley, "George Eliot" and other standard novelists have been added, while for the rest we subscribe to Smith and Son's and Mudie's.

In the arrangement of the library I adopted the classified system, believing it to be the best and most convenient to the student, who, whatever he may be engaged on, has only to place himself near his subject and he has at once all, or nearly all, we can offer him, without running all over the rooms for books.

I think I have stated as much as is necessary to give you some idea of the beginning and object of this institution, which, I am pleased to say, still holds its own in these competing times.

ON CLASSIFICATION FOR SCIENTIFIC AND MEDICAL LIBRARIES.[1]

By JAMES BLAKE BAILEY, Resident Librarian to the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society of London.

THE question of classification having been proposed as a subject for discussion at this meeting of the Association, I venture to offer the following remarks, looking at the subject wholly from a "special" point of view.

I would at the outset state that this paper is, as its title indicates, confined to classification in scientific and medical Libraries. Of the wants of general Libraries in this respect I have had no experience, and therefore will not presume to speak on that part of the subject.

[1] Read at the Plymouth Meeting, September, 1885.

I cannot agree with those persons who think that a system of classification may be worked out which shall be applicable to all Libraries. To me it seems quite impossible that any scheme suitable for a large general Library could be of the slightest use in a special Library.

If we are to settle this vexed question once for all, it can, I think, only be done by having the wants of each class of Libraries fully stated. The Librarians of the chief Public Libraries are agreed that they require some extensive system of classification, and there is little doubt but that they will be able to draw up a scheme by which these Libraries can all be classified in a tolerably uniform manner. But for the more special Libraries on whose behalf I venture to speak, I do not think any elaborate system of classification either on the shelves or in the catalogue desirable. Professor Stanley Jevons seems to me to exactly meet the facts of the case when he says: "Classification by "subjects would be an exceedingly useful method if it were practicable, but experience "—or, indeed, a little reflection—shows it to be a logical absurdity."[1] The chief systems of classification have been brought together and well summed up by Mr. E. C. Thomas.[2] Mr. Taylor Kay, in an article on The Classification of Literature, in the Nineteenth Century for October, 1884, stated that he had before him 114 different schemes of classification. But after all this labour and the bringing forth of so large a family of classifications, I cannot see that any advantage could be gained by putting any of them into operation in special scientific or medical Libraries.

I would here say that by what has gone before I do not by any means imply that books should be placed higgledy-piggledy on the shelves of a Library. There can be no doubt that a certain amount of classification is of great service. What I do object to is attempting to do on the shelves that which can be done so much better by a properly made index catalogue. To the amount of classification necessary and useful I will refer again.

In the article before alluded to, Mr. Taylor Kay writes: "But within the last two "centuries the domain of intellectual knowledge has not only become enlarged, but its "divisions have become clear, exact, definite and decided." I should have thought that certainly as regards natural science the exact reverse of the latter part of this sentence was the truth; for never was there a time when more books were published whose sole object seems to be to bridge over the gulf hitherto existing between two different branches of science. To take an example: not so many years ago Zoology and Palæontology were distinct subjects, each represented by text books of its own, and between which a boundary line could be drawn. But at the present time what book is there treating of Zoology which ignores fossil forms. It is now made a point by teachers in both these branches to illustrate their subject by reference from one to the other. The Palæontologist shows the relationship between his extinct species and those now inhabiting the globe; the Zoologist teaches how the recent specimens under his care are the lineal descendants of those whose record is only in the rocks.

The foregoing remarks are intended to point out that the boundary line between certain divisions of science is not, as Mr. Kay states, sharp and definite; and this applies not only to the subject just spoken of but to nearly every branch of science, and to such an extent that it is quite impossible to take any set of headings and fit

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[1] Principles of Science, II. 402.

[2] TRANSACTIONS of the Library Association, Cambridge Meeting, 1882, p. 180.

your books into them, so that the readers in a Library may, by going to the shelves, find all the information they require.

Whilst engaged on the Catalogue of the Students' Library at the Radcliffe Library I had another example of the difficulty of deciding to which classes certain books belong. The catalogue in question is one of a collection of text books and monographs for the use of students, and is arranged in accordance with the subjects as taught in the Museum. This catalogue was sent round in proof to the several Professors with the request that they would revise it as they thought fit. The result was that in not a few instances the same book was put down by more than one Professor as belonging to his own special department. With some books we were obliged to enter them under both headings. In such a small collection of what might be called plain-sailing books, this was not of much moment, but it well illustrates the very considerable difficulty which exists in attempting, on a large scale, to place books under any number of arbitrary divisions. And this remark applies not to books of collected essays dealing with a variety of subjects, but to many of those which, at first sight, or from a study of their titles only would seem to present but small difficulty. Mr. Dewey's system of classification being intended for general libraries, it is hardly fair to expect it to answer the purpose of special ones, and any one attempting to carry out such a classification in a scientific library would soon find himself in hopeless confusion. This, however, is an argument in favour of my contention, viz.: that no scheme can be propounded which shall be suitable both to general and special libraries. I would here give an illustration or two to show that the carrying out of a plan laid down on Mr. Dewey's lines would be of little use to a reader in a scientific library. Mineralogy is placed as a sub-heading to chemistry, yet nearly all good books on geology treat largely of mineralogy, and, in fact, there are many books professedly treating of both geology and mineralogy. I venture to think that chemistry is not the first heading to which a stranger to the system would go for mineralogy. Or again, take a book dealing with the life history of fishes, would this go under comparative anatomy, embryology, or zoology, sub-class fishes? No doubt it would be correctly classed under either heading and neither division would be complete without it. In a good index catalogue it is easy to overcome this difficulty by entering the book in all these places, but I cannot imagine any system, either of "duplicate entries" or "cross references" by which this can be done on the shelves. To take one more instance, suppose a reader to be working up material for a monograph on the horse, with a well-made index catalogue he turns up the word "horse" and finds all the information set out for him. With a classification made under a series of set headings as advocated by Mr. Taylor Kay, he must, for the anatomy, go to comparative anatomy; for the diseases to veterinary medicine; for the different breeds to zoology; for the paces to animal mechanics; for horse shoes and shoeing I presume to useful arts. Which of these two is the easier is, I think, very plain. I am aware there is an index to Mr. Dewey's scheme by which this information can be hunted up, but for my own part, I always look with grave suspicion on a catalogue that requires either an index or a long preface to explain its working.

As regards these systems of classification, I think it should be borne in mind that the most expert cataloguer must frequently come across books which give a vast amount of trouble to determine their exact place among the classes in the catalogue. And when all this is settled it must not be forgotten that the same difficulty will present

itself to the mind of each reader who wishes to hunt up this particular subject. In the latter case the difficulty is increased by the fact that in all probability the reader is not as familiar with the system as the cataloguer. In addition to this it is more than probable that cataloguer and reader will come to different conclusions as to where the particular subject should be sought for. In a properly made index catalogue this is well nigh impossible.

The one great argument used by persons in favour of minute shelf-classification is that with a library so arranged, you can take a reader to the shelves and place him face to face with all the books on the subject at which he is working. I have already pointed out, however, how many books there are treating equally of two separate subjects, and I confess I cannot see how any system of cross-references or duplicate entries can be used so as to make these books useful, or perhaps I should say visible, under two separate headings. The only possible way to do this is by extra copies, and I think all will agree with me that books multiply quite fast enough without going in for duplicate copies to carry out a system which must be even then imperfect.

But besides the objection just urged there seem to be many others, at least in the Libraries about which I am speaking, against the utility of classification either on the shelves or by a Catalogue. Against shelf-classification one other great objection is waste of room, through being obliged to bring books of dissimilar sizes together. To take one example: if you have a shelf for Histology it must contain Klein's Elements of Histology, a book $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches high, and also Klein and Noble Smith's Atlas of Histology, a book $12\frac{1}{2}$ inches high. This may not be so serious an objection in a Library where space is no object, but personally I have not yet come across that Librarian's Paradise.

My predecessor in the position I now hold, in a paper read at the Conference of Librarians, pointed out another blot in this system in Libraries where books are lent out, viz., that the leading books may be out when the shelf is consulted by the reader. It may perhaps be argued that this is so under any circumstances, but I would point out that a properly arranged index Catalogue enables the reader to obtain the whole strength of the Library on his subject, independently of whether the books are actually on the shelves at the moment or not.

Now comes that which to me is the greatest difficulty of all, as regards Classification on the shelves of either Scientific or Medical Libraries. I mean the vast Periodical Literature of the day. Any Bibliography ignoring the papers printed in the numerous Journals and Transactions would be absolutely useless. In fact, I think all will agree, that it would not be worth the time occupied in compiling it. The impossibility of showing on the shelves anything except separate publications seems to me, to at once stamp this system as useless, in the class of Libraries to which this paper relates. With a good index Catalogue all the chief periodical literature can be laid before a student, and I venture to think that no Catalogue has yet been issued, in which this has been so thoroughly and so well done as in the Index Catalogue to the Surgeon-General's Library at Washington.

For my own part I confess it is the best Library Catalogue I have ever seen, and this opinion is given not after a casual examination of the Catalogue, but from continual use of it. By this Catalogue it is possible to get at all the leading information on any subject, not only of separate publications but also of the papers scattered through the chief periodicals. With a Catalogue of this description kept up

to date, a reader can obtain his information in a very short time and with little or no difficulty. There is no waste of time in considering under what heading any subject is placed, as there is in a classified Catalogue: for example if books on Abscesses are wanted, that word is turned up and all the literature in the Library seen at once.

I will now venture to lay down the lines on which I would arrange a scientific or medical library. In the first place, I would separate the journals and transactions from the rest of the library. This I hold to be a very important point: so many readers come to libraries of this description to hunt up the periodical literature or to verify references already made that it is of the utmost consequence to have these books all together: if possible it is a good plan to have them in a separate room or series of rooms. I have always found it better to arrange the periodicals apart from the transactions, the former put together roughly in subjects; that is to say, in a scientific library I put together all the journals on botany, anatomy and physiology, chemistry, &c., each under its separate heading, reserving a special place for those which treat of a variety of subjects.

The transactions I arrange by countries, and I have found it a most useful plan, especially with the scientific transactions, to keep the 4tos. in the wall cases and the 8vos. in floor-cases standing at right-angles to the wall; this, however, is a mere matter of detail, and must depend upon the style of the library. This latter remark applies also to the separation of transactions from journals. The plan here suggested is suitable for libraries where the books can be in one room; then the journals stand on one side and the transactions on the other. If, on the other hand, a building has to be dealt with consisting of a series of small rooms, I think it would be better not to separate the transactions from the journals, but to put both together in subjects as far as possible. The remaining books of a library I would treat much in the same way as the periodicals, that is to say, arrange them on the shelves roughly in the subjects to which the library is devoted. The books at the Radcliffe Library are on the shelves under the following headings: philosophy, mathematics, astronomy, geography and physical geography, physics, mineralogy, geology and palæontology, voyages and travels, anatomy and physiology, zoology, botany, medicine, biography, and miscellaneous. The wider subjects, such as zoology and medicine, are still further sub-divided into certain broad chief-headings, so that, for example, books on the mammalia are apart from those on fish, &c. It may be urged, that is really shelf-classification: I would, however, answer that it is not so at all in accordance with the views of those who try to arrange their books so that they may send the readers to the shelves and present to them the strength of the library on any given subject. I think I have shown that in scientific or medical libraries this is well nigh impossible. The amount of classification here advocated is very useful for finding books: for instance, when a reader presents an assistant with a list of references, it is more than probable that all the books required will be in close proximity to one another, and so considerable time is saved in getting them together. The best way of keeping the various subjects together as the library grows is to supplement the wall-cases with floor cases standing as nearly opposite as possible. These floor cases are numbered to correspond with the wall-cases: for example, suppose geology to be in case 4, the floor-cases would be 4 *a*, 4 *b*, &c. It is well-nigh impossible to keep the large folios with the small books; these should have separate cases. I have not mentioned collections of dictionaries and

books of refererence because these are necessarily essential to the proper working of any library, be the system of classification what it may.

In conclusion, I would say that I have not attempted in this paper to bring forward any novel views, but simply to state what in actual practice I have found the best plan to pursue in this very vexed question of classification. To sum up, I have come to the conclusion that in such libraries as those of which I have been speaking, any elaborate classification on the shelves for purposes of reference is undesirable, and, in fact, impossible. A rough amount of shelf-classification is useful for facilitating the finding of books. An index-catalogue is absolutely necessary, and periodical literature should be included in this, as far as possible. Perhaps I may here be allowed to allude for a moment to a paper of mine published in the Edinburgh volume of the TRANSACTIONS of this Association, entitled "An Index to Scientific Bibliographies." In that paper I advocated making use of bibliographies that are appended either to books or papers in library catalogues, and so save space, and, moreover, often draw attention to the complete literature of a subject rather than merely to the books on it contained in a particular library. I mention this again because I have just had a good instance occur of the usefulness of this proceeding. The literature of the subject "gastrostomy" has been very scattered and difficult to hunt up; in a paper published in a recent number of one of the German surgical journals the author has appended a good bibliography, containing references to 162 cases. Under the head of gastrostomy, in our index-catalogue, I have drawn attention to this bibliography, so that future searchers will be saved a vast amount of trouble. The value of such a bibliography is that the cases are recorded in the pages of journals, some of them not very accessible, and so can only be put together after immense labour. It seems to me that by indexing such bibliographies as these in our catalogues we are conferring a great boon on our readers.

It is rather curious as an illustration, showing how useless any system of shelf classification is, that if we were to arrange a library containing all the books referred to in the bibliography I have just mentioned, only three of them would be found by any reader going to the shelf containing gastrostomy, all the remaining references being to papers in journals.

It is well-nigh impossible to keep up an index to all the periodical medical and scientific literature; this, however, for current medical books and papers, is done for us by the "Index Medicus," and similar publications, whilst nearly every branch of science has its bibliographical journal. The plan I pursue is, whenever I can obtain a separate copy of any important paper I catalogue it as a book, and of course enter it in the subject index, so that the catalogue in course of time becomes an index to a certain amount of the literature in transactions and periodicals. In addition to this, when we have had to hunt up a list of books and papers on any subject, a note is made of the principal of these in the index, so that the trouble does not occur twice. Any single paper which is difficult to find is also treated in a similar manner, thus saving future labour.

THE AUCKLAND FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.[1]

By C. W. HOLGATE, B.A.

THAT veteran journalist George Augustus Sala, has, as I daresay most of your readers know, been lately visiting Australia and New Zealand, and has been recording his movements in a series of articles on "The Land of the Golden Fleece," which have appeared from time to time in the pages of the *Daily Telegraph*.

In one of these articles, which appeared in the issue of the above mentioned paper of Thursday, 26th November, 1885, and which was headed "On the Wharf at Auckland," he writes as follows :—

"The New Zealanders are quite as enthusiastic cricketers and football players as the Australians are, nor, however, are the interests of culture neglected in Auckland the attractive. A new free public library is approaching completion. At present the books number some 6,000; but when the building is completed its shelves will receive a sumptuous addition in the shape of the generously promised donation of Sir George Grey, of his valuable collection of books and manuscripts, many of which are unique. Let me add that the Auckland Free Public Library is open on Sundays."

So writes Mr. Sala in 1885. When I visited Auckland in November, 1884, the site for the new library had been chosen, and designs for it were in process of selection, but the old library was in full working order, and as its history and future presented some interesting features, I took pains to get all the information I could about it, with a view to writing an account which might be preserved in the pages of the LIBRARY CHRONICLE, though, unfortunately, I have had neither time nor opportunity to fulfil my intentions until now.

When I first landed on the pier at Auckland, I was surprised and pleased to see a large painted notice board, three feet square, affixed to the weighing-office, informing new arrivals, by order of the town clerk, of the existence of a free public library, and of its locality, and the hours during which it was open. That same evening I paid my first visit to the library, and became acquainted with Mr. Edward Shillington, its librarian, formerly in the Royal Engineers, who gave me a history of the events leading to the formation of the library in the year 1880, and of its career since that date.

It appears that a Mechanics' Institute and Library was first established in Auckland in 1843, and lasted on with various changes of fortune until the ratepayers of Auckland adopted the provisions of the Public Libraries Act in 1880, on which occasion its library was merged in the then created institution. The subscription to the Mechanics' Institute had been £1 per annum, and a classified catalogue of its not very valuable library had been published in 1871.

There was also, from the first days of the Provincial Councils in New Zealand until their abolition, a library belonging to the Council of the Province of Auckland. This contained some very valuable works, but access to them was confined to members of the Council, and Assembly, and to certain privileged persons who were granted visitor's tickets for a period of three months at a time by members of the council. The library was open daily from 10 to 4, and a classified catalogue of its contents was published in 1873. On the occasion of the opening of the free public library in

[1] Read at the April Meeting of the Association.

1880, this collection of books was amalgamated with that belonging to the Mechanics' Institute, and formed the nucleus of the present library.

In the year 1869, was passed "An Act to promote the Establishment of Public Libraries," the 32 & 33 Victoria, No. 67. By this it was provided that the "governing body" of any town might adopt the provisions of the Act, with the consent of a majority of the ratepayers in such town, ascertained in a specified way. Powers of borrowing money and of purchasing and renting land were given: also the power to levy a "library rate" not exceeding one penny in the pound upon the annual value of the property rateable in the particular town.

This Act was supplemented in 1875, by the 39 Victoria, No. 88, which provided means for the incorporation of public libraries and mechanics' institutes. And further, in 1877, was passed the 41 Victoria, No. 47, "The Public Libraries Subsidies Act." By this it was provided that the grant for public libraries should be apportioned amongst the provincial districts in proportion to their population, and that the distribution thereof, either in cash or in books, should be intrusted to the boards of education. Also, that a sum equal to the amount raised by way of library rate under the Act of 1869, should be paid to the governing body of any library so created under that Act. And finally, section 7 provided that "the admission to all libraries established or supported under this Act, within any borough shall be open to the public free of all charge; provided that no person, not being a contributor of any sum not less than five shillings a year shall be entitled to take books out of any public library."

In 1880, the people of Auckland determined to take advantage of these Acts and to found a free public library, and on September the 7th, 1880, the present building was opened by the Mayor, Thomas Peacock, and at the same time, Sir George Grey, K.C.B., whose name must be for ever associated with every movement of progress made by New Zealand, promised to give to the Auckland Free Public Library, in due course, his own valuable library. I shall speak later on of some of the treasures of this library, and of Sir George Grey's views as to the place it will occupy hereafter, but I must now describe the library founded in 1880.

It is situated at the corner of High Street and Chancery Lane: the building is of wood, and was formerly the old entertainment hall of the Mechanics' Institute, and seventy people can probably find room to read in it comfortably. A small room for ladies to read in is attached to it, and the librarian's dwelling is in the rear, but I must say that from no point of view did the building strike me as being suitable for a library. Probably, however, it was the best site and building available in 1880, and was intended only as a makeshift until funds could be accumulated for a more handsome and commodious building on a better site.

Despite many and grievous defects, the library has, thanks to the energy of Mr. Shillington and of the committee, who are well looked after by the press, fought a good fight. It has also established a position of sound educational value, and created a real taste for reading and study, which no schools could ever have done, and it has effectually paved the way for the more thorough appreciation of Sir George Grey's treasures in the new public library which is to be.

The regulations in force when I visited the library in 1884 seemed wise, and were in good working order. It is open every day in the year, except Christmas Day and Good Friday. On certain holidays and festivals, however, it is only open from 7 to 10 in the evening, and on Sundays it is open from 2 to 9.30 p.m. Silence is enforced,

smoking prohibited; books on no account are allowed to go beyond the premises; and readers are requested to leave on the tables, for the attendant to replace, any books they have taken from the shelves. No person under fourteen is admitted; a lavatory is provided, and readers are requested to use the same to prevent the books being unnecessarily soiled.

The library opened in 1880, with about 5,000 volumes upon its shelves, the larger and by far the most valuable part of which having belonged to the Provincial Council Library already mentioned. At the end of 1883, there were 6,186 volumes in the library, 621 having been added during that year, and at the end of 1884, the total was 6,620, the additions having been 445, and there are now, at the close of 1885, 6,751 volumes. Biography is the largest class of literature, then come History and Science and then Fiction, a result hardly to be expected, but most creditable. Eleven books were reported missing in 1884, and some damage had been done, but as the estimated number of persons using the library is about 650 on week days, and half that number on Sundays, some wear and tear must be expected. A book is kept for visitors and readers to inscribe their names in, and during 1883, 3,000 persons left their signatures.

There is no printed catalogue at present, nor is there likely to be until the new buildings are opened and the Grey collection is added. Since the start in 1880, Mr. Shillington has worked hard and has produced unaided a manuscript catalogue, in two parts, the first part under authors' names, with press marks given; the second, an inventory of the books arranged alphabetically by short titles; there is also an elaborately prepared index, books being found in it by their subject, title, and by the leading words in the title.

Several weak points connected with the library must be noticed. First, it inherited a good deal of trivial matter from the old Mechanics' Institute. Secondly, the committee have failed to make up gaps in the sets of works in the library, and to get back-numbers, and missing volumes of works, so well as they might have done. Lastly, this, the first free public library under the Acts of Parliament, and one destined to become the ornament of the former capital of New Zealand, has but a poor collection of works relating to this colony, and of the early newspapers and other publications from which history will have some day to be written. This last defect is one which may yet be made good, though at some expense and difficulty, but it is one that brooks no delay, and it should be remedied, whatever the cost, and whatever the trouble.

The management of the library is in the hands of a committee of the City Council, the Mayor being President. It is supported by a half-penny rate, and at the outset its income did not exceed £300; but on the enlargement of the city boundaries in 1882, the population of Auckland was doubled, and the rate now produces about £560, to which Government adds a subsidy of £155.

In 1882, Parliament voted £6,000 for distribution to public libraries by the Education Department. Application to share in this grant had to be made in a statutory form, and the subsidy granted to each library varied according to the income (whether from rates or subscriptions) raised by each library augmented by a nominal sum of £25. From the report of this distribution, issued in 1883, it appears that out of 354 libraries of one sort or another sharing in the grant, the following had the largest and smallest subsidies respectively.

Library.	Income.	Subsidy.
Wellington	£824 0 0	£222 0 0
Oamaru	774 0 0	209 0 0
Auckland	568 0 0	155 0 0
Brighton	0 12 6	6 14 2

Wellington and Oamaru I should remark are Mechanics' Institutes, and their incomes are derived from voluntary subscriptions.

In 1883 a munificent bequest was made to the Auckland City Council by a Mr. Edward Costley, part of which was directed to be devoted towards building a free public library and art gallery. The matter has been taken in hand and has been progressing slowly ever since. When I was in Auckland designs had been called for, and about forty had come in; the best being by a firm of Melbourne architects, and there is every probability of the building being completed this year, the foundation stone having been laid on June 5th, 1885.

I must now say a few words about Sir George Grey's valuable library.

The promise of this gift to Auckland was made in 1880, but as there were then no means of housing and utilizing the collection, it remained—and will remain until the new buildings are ready—at Kawau, the island home of this veteran statesman and man of letters. On June 5th, 1883, Sir George Grey delivered an address to the citizens of Auckland in the Theatre Royal, upon "The principles which should guide the citizens in founding a free public library." A full report of this was given in the *New Zealand Herald*, which was afterwards published in pamphlet form, a copy of which was kindly sent to me by the author. It is very pleasant reading, and it contains interesting accounts of the acquisition of some of the great treasures in this collection, but the most valuable part is that which explains Auckland's position so peculiarly well fitted as a centre from which "to flood the Pacific with learning, and to dominate with a just and righteous supremacy, not of tyranny, but of intellect, over the great extent of islands which surround."

The author urges the necessity of founding a library fitted to cultivate persons of many nations, who will throng to the future capital of a great ocean; and he shows how by placing his choice, and in many cases unique, books and manuscripts at the disposal of the library, the learned from all parts of the world will be compelled to visit Auckland "to drink at sources of knowledge which they can obtain in no other place." I would recommend this pamphlet to the attention of librarians as an eloquent piece of special pleading in behalf of free public libraries, from one whose knowledge of books is as great as has been his good fortune in acquiring treasures, and his readiness in making them available to all students and bibliophiles.

I shall always regret that I was unable to visit Kawau, and learn from the collector and owner of this library more of the history of its foundation. Circumstances, however, prevented me, and that being so, Sir George Grey most kindly wrote to me, at some length, about his library.

He has some MSS. of value, notably an early Greek one of the Gospels, on vellum; a magnificent Latin one of the Scriptures, on vellum; an illuminated one of Plutarch; an early Italian one of Josephus, illuminated and on vellum; several missals, and the works of Boethius and St. Gregory the Great.

One of the most interesting items to Englishmen is a series of draft despatches to foreign ambassadors, written by Thurloe and corrected by Oliver Cromwell's own

hand. There are also many valuable autograph letters, "written in all the confidence of friendship by the men who have made history" in the present and former centuries.

Of early printed works are, "The Golden Legend," and "Higden's Polychronicon," 1482, by Caxton; "The Golden Legend," 1527, and several other works, by Wynken de Worde; several also by Pynson, including Chaucer's "Canterbury Tales," 1492, and "The Ship of Folys of the World," 1509.

Early editions are here of the works of Erasmus, Ascham and Lilly, of Cooper's Chronicles and Stow's Annals, a perfect and beautiful copy of the first edition of Spenser's "Fairy Queen," the first edition of the "Paradise Lost," and a perfect and beautiful copy of Shakespeare's Poems, 1640. The masterpieces of English literature since the introduction of printing are now only resting in the little island home of their collector, until the people of Auckland shall provide a worthy building for their reception. Let us hope that a great opportunity may not be lost. And last but not least of the treasures Auckland will possess, will be the collection of works relating to the languages of the native races of Australia and the Pacific Islands. Many of these are in manuscript, and are from the pens of the early explorers and missionaries, and, as Sir George Grey says in his address, the possession of them will give to those choosing to make use of the Auckland Free Public Library the key to all the languages of Polynesia.

I cannot pretend to have done justice to a subject which merits a better pen than I wield, but I hope I may have inspired some interest in the minds of your readers, in a place, and in an institution very far away from us but bound to us by many ties. Until the new library buildings are completed in Auckland, we shall have to wait for a complete knowledge of the Grey Library, for it has never been catalogued; let us hope that the time may be not far distant when we shall be able to record the opening proceedings in these pages, and give a word of welcome to a printed catalogue of the 14,000 volumes with which it will start.

In concluding this paper I must mention that the *New Zealand Herald* and the *Auckland Evening Star*, the two daily papers of the city, have persistently and ably championed the cause of the free public library, pointing out unsparingly its defects of management, supervising its financial affairs, and encouraging its progress as a great educational institution.

A SUBJECT-INDEX AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

For the first time in its history, the British Museum Library has a classified catalogue of some portion of its contents. It is now some years, since the writer of these lines remarked that he "should be inclined to recommend the preparation of an abridged classified index to the library of the British Museum and its publication from time to time in sections, severally complete in themselves." (Proceedings, Library Association, 1877.) The "abridged classified index" has come, and by its appearance has contributed to make the publication of a sectional catalogue more of a practical question. By his *Subject Index of Modern Works added to the Library of the British Museum, in the years* 1880-85 (printed by order of the Trustees), Mr. G. K. Fortescue, the Superintendent of the Reading Room, has conferred an enormous boon upon students at the

Library. Taking the accession lists of modern books, printed since the introduction of print in 1880, and abstracting and abridging the titles of all books containing any particle of useful information, Mr. Fortescue has rearranged the whole alphabetical series under subject-headings selected by himself, and reissued some seventy distinct alphabets as a single compendious and invaluable subject catalogue. The headings are very numerous, and many books are entered several times over. The total number of entries is about 36,000; and all the heavy manual, as well as intellectual, labour involved, has been performed by Mr. Fortescue himself, who has devoted a great part of his non-official time to the undertaking. Every reader at the Museum, and many readers at a distance, will gratefully acknowledge the enormous benefit conferred by Mr. Fortescue's enterprise and industry, and we are glad to learn that his services have been specially acknowledged by the Trustees. As the subject-index is well abreast with the latest publication of accession catalogues, and as such accessions as convey no useful knowledge, as for instance novels and poems, are very properly excluded, there will be no difficulty in keeping up the index to modern books for the future. The difficulty will consist in carrying out the stupendous task of classifying the books acquired before 1880. It should be known, however, that, with this object in view, copies of the General Catalogue now in the press have been printed on one side only, and that the titles on these sheets can be cut out and rearranged as well as those of the accession parts. Nothing is wanting but the men and the money, which surely will not be refused for an object of so much public importance. In the arrangement it will probably be found advantageous to adopt a somewhat different grouping from Mr. Fortescue's, bringing the entries under the different departments of music, chemistry, or any other leading subject within the compass of the same section; and publishing these divisions separately as originally contemplated by the writer of this notice. No one, it is evident, could be expected to buy the whole catalogue, however abridged; but a large demand would be insured for a subject catalogue, sold in distinct sections, where everybody would find what he wanted, and nobody what he did not want. R. GARNETT.

THE BIBLIOGRAPHY OF SIR WALTER RALEGH.[1]

The first of these pamphlets is a reprint of several articles which appeared in the *Western Antiquary*, and is a work that possesses not only the natural unity of its subject, but the qualities of accuracy, methodical arrangement, and comparison of titles, editions and dates, besides several useful notes in elucidation of various matters, that render a bibliography of value. The same cannot be said of the New York attempt. Beautiful as regards print and paper, it merely resembles a detailed catalogue, making no classification, as in such a wide subject is necessary. We fail to find any principle of arrangement; books by Ralegh are mixed with those about him, editions of the abridgement of the "History of the World" are set a long way off the history itself, while translations are mingled with voyages and "works." This is the more to be regretted as the list contains much useful information on many of the items and especially gives

[1] *The Bibliography of Sir Walter Ralegh*, with notes. By T. N. Brushfield, M.D., Plymouth, 1886. 4to, pp. 36. *A Bibliography of Sir Walter Ralegh.* New York, 1886.

the titles and collations of several Dutch and German works and translations not fully printed by Dr. Brushfield.

In a case of this kind a bibliography ought to exhibit an account of the man and his life, and Dr. Brushfield, introducing the plan upon which he has made his laborious compilation "of the works written by, or relating to" Ralegh, claims that *from it* "there results not simply a barren record of the titles of works, but a kind of connected literary history of the subject chosen." We have accordingly I. *Principal Biographies* of Ralegh, twenty-five items, among which Shirley's Life is carefully discussed; followed by II. *Short Memoirs*, a numerous group of about sixty articles in magazines, dictionaries, collections, &c. The great traveller's *voyages* form the object of the next four groups, the *First to Guiana*, 1595-96, the *Second to Guiana*, 1617-8, the *Third to Virginia*, 1585-87 (where however it is proved that he himself never went; the colony being sent out and planted at his charge gave rise to the popular idea); the *Fourth Miscellaneous*, i.e. to the Azores in 1586, Capture of the Great Carrac in 1592, &c. Group VII. gathers all that is written on Ralegh's *Trial, Residence in the Tower, and Execution*, including proclamations, warrants, narratives, and other documents. VIII. *Matters relating to personal history*, includes his pedigree, and many curious particulars. The remaining eleven groups concern the writings of Ralegh, arranged as follows:— IX. *Collected Works;* X. *History of the World;* XI. *History*, miscellaneous; XII. *Military*, and XIII. *Naval* writings; XIV. *Political* (a very interesting group); XV. *Geographical;* XVI. *Philosophical*; XVII. *Poems and Plays:* XVIII. *Scientific;* XIX. *Sir W. Ralegh's Ghost;* XX. *Works attributed* to Sir W. Ralegh, but not written by him. This bare enumeration shows what a wide field has been traversed; not only printed authorities, but manuscript sources have been ransacked, compared, and indicated; and the full and careful notes, founded on personal knowledge of the books, point out the true contents of volumes obscured by confusing titles or later reprints, clear up inaccuracies, discuss moot questions of authorship, or settle the relative value of editions. The latest discoveries of Mr. Gosse as to *Cynthia* are here registered, no less than chance notices from the searches of the Historical MSS. Commission or the State Papers. As models of bibliography pure and simple, we must point out article 159, "Remains of Sir W. Ralegh," and group X. "The History of the World," in which two most complicated subjects are treated with unusual clearness and accuracy. This bibliography embraces more than 239 items. The ability and versatility of the remarkable object of Dr. Brushfield's studies have never been more minutely illustrated.

OBITUARY: LLOYD P. SMITH.

Members of the Library Association who attended the International Conference of Librarians in 1877, will remember the pleasant presence there of Mr. Lloyd P. Smith, who was the holder of what is probably the only hereditary office in the United States. It is with great regret we announce his death, which occurred 2nd July, at his home, No. 4703, German-town Avenue, *aet.* 64 years. His health, we learn from the *Philadelphia Public Ledger*, had been unusually good until a few months ago. He was born February 6th, 1822. His father, John Jay Smith, his immediate predecessor as Librarian of the Philadelphia Company, placed him in Haverford College, from which

he graduated at the age of 14 years. He received a business training in the dry goods house of Leaming & Co., and while yet a very young man, began the publication of law books. This he followed up by publishing "Smith's Weekly Volume," a magazine which claimed to be "a select circulating library for town and country, containing the best popular literature." The publication began in 1845, and took the place of "Waldie's Select Circulating Library," which started with John Jay Smith as editor in 1832. In 1849, Lloyd P. Smith became assistant to his father as Librarian of the Philadelphia Company, and upon the resignation of the latter in 1851, after twenty-two years of service in the position, he succeeded to the office of Librarian. The library was then, and since 1799, had been, located at Fifth and Library Streets. By the conditions of the will of James Logan, which were validated by an act of the Legislature approved March 31st, 1792, Mr. Smith, who was a direct descendant in the fourth generation of that distinguished Quaker and Deputy Governor of the Province, became the eighth hereditary librarian of the Loganian Library, then and now held by the Philadelphia Company in trust. He also had the supervision of the Ridgway Library, of which the Philadelphia Company is trustee. During his long stewardship he translated many works. As a compiler and classifier he also rendered valuable and efficient service. For several years he was the editor of "Lippincott's Magazine." He frequently contributed to periodicals. Among others of these are "Remarks on the Existing Materials for Forming a Just Estimate of the Character of Napoleon the First," issued in 1865, in an edition limited to fifty copies; and "Remarks on the Apology for Imperial Usurpation contained in Napoleon's Life of Cæsar," of which 100 copies were printed in the same year. These were both reprints from the United Service Magazine. He prepared a paper on "The Classification of Books" in 1882, and compiled an elaborate "Bibliography of that ancient and honourable order, the Society of the Cincinnati" in 1885. A speech at the inauguration of the new hall of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, of which he was a member, and a paper on "Symbolism and Science," are also among his works.

During the War of the Secession, Mr. Smith took an active part in collecting money for the relief of the loyal people of Eastern Tennessee, and went in person to distribute the funds. He also enlisted as a three months' volunteer, and assisted in the defence of the nation during the Gettysburg campaign.

He married Hannah E., daughter of Isaac C. Jones, an East India merchant, and lived for many years on the estate of the latter at Rockland, now in Fairmouth Park. He was a leading member of the American Library Association, a trustee of old Laurel Hill Cemetery, and one of the originators and formerly treasurer of the West Laurel Hill Company. He was also a member of St. Luke's Protestant Episcopal Church, in Germantown. He was buried 6th July, at Laurel Hill Cemetery, in the presence of a large gathering of friends.

English librarians who made his acquaintance during his visit to this country, will remember the genial shrewdness of his conversation, and the point and quaintness by which it was admirably set off.

SOME AUSTRALIAN CATALOGUES AGAIN.

We have received the following letter, which, on the whole, we think it best to print as it stands, omitting only a few phrases which in no way affect the argument. We should have been glad if the writer had signed his name, though we do not suppose that anyone who is at all acquainted with the Catalogues spoken of will have much difficulty in identifying the writer :—

Sir,—Mr. Holgate, who visited the Australian Colonies last year for the benefit of his health, made a collection of Library Catalogues while he was here, and on his return to England has sent you some notes about them, which you have been good enough to publish in the Oct.-Nov. number of the *Chronicle* just to hand. This I suppose you have done with the hope that any notice of their works—in the main complimentary—would encourage Colonial bibliographers, and because you naturally desire your paper should represent, to some extent, even the most distant portions of the Empire. For these very reasons, however, —that your interest is genuine, and that we Colonials are so far away—I trust that you will not object to my drawing attention to an issue of considerable importance to us, which is raised by Mr. Holgate's article. Bibliographical work done at this distance from the intellectual centres is less likely to attract notice that what is done "at home." Hence it is that the few opinions expressed upon it—even when coming from the most incompetent critics—are hardly likely to be canvassed, and may consequently have a weight in shaping the course of many librarians amongst us that you little dream of in a land where much of what is printed to-day is contradicted or forgotten to-morrow. The desirability, then, of allowing decisions on our work to be—at least in some cases—questioned, in order that men of undoubted experience and ability may pronounce upon them, will, I think, be apparent to anyone who reflects for a moment on the circumstances in which we are placed, and will be admitted, I hope, by no one more readily than by yourself.

I wish, with your permission, to appeal to the tribunal of the *Chronicle* and its readers from Mr. Holgate's decision on one particular point.

It is this. He takes upon himself to choose from the Australian catalogues one which he holds up to us as "the most skilled and elaborate" yet produced, and consequently the one to be followed as an example. Now if this is so, the sooner it is known in these new Colonies the better. It will save no end of trouble, and any painstaking clerk will be able to do the work of cataloguing as well as the most eminent scholar that has hitherto been engaged on it. This will be plain from the following description of the system adopted, and the illustrations I shall give of its results.

The Catalogue to which I refer, and which I shall call No. 1 (to distinguish it from another I have to mention, and in order to avoid names as much as possible) is divided into four parts :—(1) an alphabetical list under authors' names, (2) a catalogue of pamphlets, (3) a division of the books into thirteen classes (Natural Philosophy, History, Biography, Poetry, &c.), and (4) an Index giving the first and any leading words in each title, as well as the class to which the work belongs. That is to say, if you are looking for a work of which you know the title (even imperfectly) or the author's name, you can find it, and you can also learn what works the Library contains in each of the thirteen classes into which it is divided: but this is all. Even for this result the machinery is a little complicated. For if you find the title of a book in the index, you must look elsewhere to get the name of the author, and if you want the date of publication you will have to consult still another portion of the Catalogue. Of all the valuable information and guidance which librarians have of late years been endeavouring to give their readers there is none. The compiler reads the titlepage, and, for all his Catalogue discloses, he may or may not know anything more about the book. His work is a mere product of physical labour—the labour of the eye and the hand. Beyond this there is nothing except it be the knowledge—very slight in most cases—necessary to place a book in one of the thirteen very comprehensive classes—to discover, for instance, whether it belongs to Poetry or Geography, Theology or Fiction. Where in a catalogue constructed according to this system the skill is to be found of which Mr. Holgate speaks as surpassing all that has been displayed in Australia I am at a loss to determine.

An eminent authority has said that the "ideal Catalogue would give us under every subject its complete bibliography, not only mentioning all the monographs on that subject, but all works which in any way illustrate it, including all parts of books, magazine articles, &c. and the best encyclopædias that treat it. This can rarely be done, because it is beyond the ability of librarians." There is the ideal (at least according to the highest and most

widely-accepted authority up to the present) by its distance from which every catalogue now-a-days is to be judged. If we measure our No. 1 by this standard a glance will suffice to show what a meagre production it is. Let us take up any subject and look for the resources of the Library upon it. The Catalogue will tell you merely the names of the books which happen to have the word you are looking for on their titlepages. If you want to know all the Library can offer you on Evolution, and you turn to that word in the index, you will find just one book—Bastian's—because the word "Evolution" occurs in the name which the author has given it. There is not a word to refer you to Darwin, whose works are also in the Library, nor to Haeckel's "History of Creation," nor to the many books having chapters or other portions bearing on the subject. If you want to read about Homer the only help the Catalogue gives is to tell you that the Library has Gladstone's "Studies on Homer," yet it contains also his "Homeric Synchronism," and his "Juventus Mundi;" and besides these there are on its shelves De Quincey's Works, including the Essay on "Homer and the Homeridæ," Froude's "Short Studies" in which we have "The Life of Ancient Greece as painted by Homer," Dryden's Works, Lamartine's "Celebrated Characters," Professor Wilson's Works in which is an "Essay on Homer and his translators," Voltaire's "Essai sur la Poésie Epique," and a great deal more.

Of course work of this kind "can rarely be done, because it is beyond the ability of librarians." If a man had to search for all such information at the time he was compiling his catalogue, the work of even a small library could not be done within the years of life on which librarians can count. But this is exactly where skill is displayed. An able librarian will tell at once where a great deal of matter on each subject is to be found from his previous knowledge of books, and can in this way do a great portion of his work without having had once to consult his shelves. He will know readily where to look for further information, and the consequence is that results become possible to him which would be totally beyond the reach of a more ignorant man.

It is true that the compiler of this No. 1 Catalogue has endeavoured in the Supplements to avoid some of the defects which I have pointed out, thus showing that he was conscious of them himself, though Mr. Holgate is not. These supplements are less complicated, having only two divisions—the classes and an Index. The index in the last supplement is improved by the addition of a few subject-entries not to be found on the titlepages, but the effort in this direction is so feeble that it proves more against the compiler than in his favour.

Now let me compare with this work a Catalogue which has also been produced in Australia, and which for the reasons given before I shall call Catalogue No. 2. In this work the "ideal," held up by the great modern authority, to whom I have referred, is aimed at with a success which, according to the ablest experts in various parts of the world, had never previously been attained. On almost every subject the bibliography is given with all—or at least nearly all—the fulness which the resources of the Library permit. Take for instance "Shakespeare." Under this heading you have not only the edition which the Library contains, with a table of contents, and the Poems, edited by Robert Bell, with contents, Clarke's Concordance, and Halliwell-Phillipps's "Illustrations," but as many as thirty-three references to volumes, in which you will find valuable articles, essays, lectures, remarks, &c. about Shakespeare and his works, into which volumes ninety-nine out of a hundred ordinary readers would never think of looking without the help that is given in this Catalogue. Take "England," you will find a literally inexhaustible mine of information opened up on all the phases of the subject—Antiquities, Army, Commerce, Constitution, Geology, History (General and Parliamentary), Literature, Travels, &c.—these sub-headings being arranged alphabetically for facility of reference. Do you want some information on such a subject as 'Maize," which is an important one in Australia, you will find that though there is no book on Maize in the Library, the Catalogue points to eleven works in which you will probably find all you require. Under "Parliament" and "Parliamentary," is a guide to almost all that the English and some other languages offer on the subject so complete under all its various sub-heads—Assembling, Bi-Cameral System, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Clôture, Committees, Constituencies, Constituent Parts, Dissolution, Duration, &c. &c. all through the alphabet down to the Wonderful Parliament and Parliamentary Writs—that if better known it would be looked on as a necessary adjunct to every Parliamentary Library in the world.

But this is not all: the compiler has not only given such copious guidance for reading on each subject, but has also found means to supply a good deal of other useful information. In the case of some famous questions in dispute he tells his readers which side each author takes, in the case of philosophical works he indicates the school to which the different writers belong, and in the case of various theories concerning a given subject he gives that of each of the most important disputants referred to. When the authors or subjects of memoirs, &c. are not generally known, he tells his readers in a few words all they will probably want to know. When authors, editors, &c. have the same name or title he care-

fully distinguishes between them, and he gives the originals of an immense number of pseudonyms, some of which are to be found nowhere else. References are made from synonymous headings, and cognate, co-ordinate and illustrative subjects, as well as those of higher and lower degrees of comprehensiveness are bound together by a syndetic system, which I think is rarely lost sight of.

In addition to all this there is an Author-Catalogue, giving all the works by each author, a title-index giving every word from the titles, under which you would be likely to look for them, and a partial form-index, all arranged with the subject-index under one alphabet, so that the Catalogue yields its varied information in the readiest possible manner.

Of course in a work of this magnitude, where so much is attempted, it is possible there are many imperfections in slips of the pen, slips of memory, errors which indicate occasional moments of fatigue, from which no human brain or hand is exempt. I have not found more than two or three in a hour's examination, and they are of a very trivial character. But this is beside the question. For I am prepared to show Mr. Holgate at least one error in No. 1 Catalogue for every one he discovers in No. 2—errors, I may add, in the former case, of a far grosser kind than anything in the latter—errors, in fact, not unfrequently of a nature that no man having the slightest pretensions to culture could commit. Mr. Holgate says that every book is not analysed in No. 2 with the same care. Decidedly not. This is not necessary, as each librarian should draw from his books what is most required by the readers for whom he has to cater. A good deal of matter will be left disinterred by a man of discrimination unless he has unlimited time at his command, and has no object in keeping the printer's bill within bounds. A good deal also that might be valuable will escape every man who has to depend to a great extent on his past reading, and could not possibly find time to examine each book.

The question is, which of the two works, of which I have given full descriptions, with ample examples for comparison, must be regarded as the most skilled specimen of cataloguing, and the better model to be followed by the librarians of Australia, where collections of books are rapidly growing up all round us, and where it is desirable that Catalogues of the best type should grow up with them. Dr. Bride is at present engaged on a Catalogue of the Public Library of Melbourne, in which I believe he is following lines somewhat similar to those adopted in No. 2 ; other librarians may do the same, and it would be well to know at this early period of our Colonial existence whether we are going the right road or not. The question having been raised in your columns, it is of importance that in the same quarter it should be decided by some authority worthy of deference.

I am sure that Mr. Holgate, whose intentions in this matter are undoubtedly honest, would send copies of the two Catalogues to your office, so that they could be personally inspected by any expert willing to do so, and I trust to your British sense of fair play to see that the question is decided wholly on its merits, and not on any personal or local considerations, nor on any trivialities which do not affect the main point at issue.

Trusting the nature of the subject will excuse the length of this letter,

I remain, Sir,

Yours very faithfully,

Feb. 26, 1886. AN AUSTRALIAN LIBRARIAN.

The Library Chronicle.

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is issued on the 15th of the month, and communications, books for review, etc., intended for the forthcoming number should be addressed, not later than the 10th of the month, to the Hon. Editor,* ERNEST C. THOMAS, *care of Messrs. J. Davy & Sons, 137, Long Acre, W.C.*

The attention of librarians and library committees, of publishers and booksellers, is called to the advantages of the CHRONICLE *(which represents at least 300 libraries) as an advertising medium. Advertisements of Library Vacancies, and of Books Wanted, or Duplicates for Sale or Exchange by Libraries are inserted at low rates.*

Members of the Library Association whose subscription for the current year has been paid are entitled to receive the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association cannot be responsible for the views expressed by the contributors to the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association.

NINTH ANNUAL MEETING.

A circular has been issued announcing that the Ninth Annual Meeting of the Association will be held at Gray's Inn, on Tuesday the 28th of September next and two following days. The Chair will be taken by the President, the Principal Librarian of the British Museum.

It is proposed to pay particular attention to the subject of Classification in Free Public Libraries, and Papers will be read on various questions relating to Library Administration and Bibliography. The subject of further Legislation for Free Libraries will also be considered.

The Council will be glad to receive offers of Papers, intimation of which should be forwarded to the Hon. Secretary as early as possible. The Papers themselves must be submitted for approval by the Council not later than the 15th of September. The Meeting will also consider motions of which one month's notice has been given to the Secretary.

Library Notes and News.

BATH.—The late Sir T. W. Holburne has bequeathed the whole of his art treasures to the city of Bath to form the nucleus of the permanent museum to be erected in that town. The collection contains a splendid gallery of pictures, and is specially rich in old Wedgwood ware, antique plate, china, majolica, bijouterie, &c. May this bequest stimulate Bath to adopt the Libraries Act, that the city may possess a library worthy of this museum.

CAMBRIDGE. — We understand that about £400 has been collected at Cambridge for a memorial to the late Henry Bradshaw. It is proposed to devote the money first to securing a bust of Mr. Bradshaw, and with the remainder to purchase the best of his books for the University Library.

LEEDS.—Mr. Yates, having noticed in the last report of the Science and Art Department that the Department had caused information with regard to foreign exhibitions to be circulated "among societies and individuals likely to be interested," called the attention of Sir Lyon Playfair to the fact that no such information had been sent to him. Sir Lyon Playfair has accordingly directed that such information shall in future be sent to him.

LONDON: BEAUMONT TRUST. — The Prince and Princess of Wales visited the East-end on the 28th of June to lay the foundation-stone of the Peoples' Palace, towards the erection of which a sum of over £12,000 has already been raised. The trustees have also received £600 "in memory of J. F. Gibson," to be expended in books for the Library.

LONDON: FRENCH PROTESTANT CHURCH LIBRARY.—The Charity Commissioners have made an order establishing a scheme for the regulation of the Library of the French Protestant Church, St. Martin's-le-Grand.

LONDON: HELLENIC SOCIETY. — The Hellenic Society have established a library which is kept at the rooms of the Royal Asiatic Society, 22, Albemarle Street. Mr. Wayte is Hon. Librarian.

LONDON: PATENT OFFICE LIBRARY.—The Free Library at the Patent Office, 25, Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, W.C., since July 1st, 1886, has been open to the public daily from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., instead of, as heretofore, from 10 a.m to 4 p.m. This library, in addition to the specifications, indexes, and other publications of the Patent Office, contains

large collection of the leading British and foreign scientific journals, transactions of learned societies, and text-books in the various departments of science and art.

PORTSMOUTH.—The Corporation have invited tenders for the erection of a Town Hall, together with a Reading Room and Library.

RICHMOND: FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.—The re-opening of the Library, which has been enlarged to almost double its previous capacity, took place on August 3rd. The Duchess of Teck performed the opening ceremony, and a vote of thanks was proposed to H.R.H. by Sir J. W. Ellis and the Bishop of Rochester. In the evening a public dinner was held, at which speeches were delivered by the Chairman of the Library Committee, Mr. F. G. B. Trevor, Mr. Edward King and Mr. Geo. Bullen. The expense of enlargement has been partly defrayed by a voluntary rate.

WAKEFIELD.—The Mechanics' Institution has received a bequest of £1000 from the late Mr. R. B. Mackie for educational purposes.

WIGAN: FREE LIBRARY.—The voluntary vote for the past year realized £146 14s. 5d., and it is anticipated that in another year the committee will be able to wipe out the greater portion of the debt remaining in consequence of the exceeding of the Winnard bequest for the purchase of books.

With our present number is issued a prospectus of the Cast-Iron Bookcase, which was described under the name of "Radcliffe Bookcase," by Prof. Acland at our Oxford Meeting in 1878.

Sir John Anderson, the founder of the Woodside Free Library, died on July 28th, at the age of 72. He retired from the War Department in 1874.

The very Rev. the Dean of Armagh, one of our Vice-Presidents, has been appointed to the Bishopric of Down, Connor and Dromore.

The Milwaukee meeting of the American Library Association has been an extremely successful gathering.

Mr. Melvil Dewey has printed an address on "Librarianship as a profession for college bred women," which he delivered on March 13, before the Association of Collegiate *Alumnæ* of Boston.

Mr. Andrew Carnegie has offered to present a free public library and music-hall to the town of Alleghany, Pennsylvania, at a cost of £50,000.

Dr. Dziatzko, the librarian of Breslau, known to the members of the Library Association by his presence at the Oxford Meeting, and his able paper on the library of the British Museum, has been appointed to the librarianship of the University of Göttingen, vacant by the transfer of Dr. Wilmans to Berlin as successor to the late Professor Lepsius.

The quincentenary festival of Heidelberg University forcibly recalls the injury done when 3,527 MSS. were carried across the Alps to the Vatican in 1623. Of these about 850 were restored in 1815, together with 38 that had been carried by Napoleon from Italy to Paris, but the classical and Oriental MSS., originally numbering 2,676, are still retained by the Vatican; and the Pope's representative at the recent festivities presented, not the MSS., but a catalogue of them—so that the scholars of Germany may more fully realize the value of the treasures they have lost!

Mr. J. P. Edmond, of 54, Queen Street, Aberdeen, writes to us:—"The Local Committee of the British Association after the meeting held here last year, left in my hands the surplus copies of the "Guide to the Exhibition of Manuscripts and Printed Books" (one of which I send you herewith), for gratuitous distribution among librarians and book-lovers. It will afford me great pleasure to forward a copy to anyone on receipt of the postage (3d.)"

The Editor begs to remind Librarians in particular that he is always glad to receive copies of their reports and other publications and notices of any events of interest in connexion with libraries. As he cannot always find time to write letters of inquiry, he hopes that it will not therefore be supposed that he is not most anxious to receive as much information as possible.

Library Catalogues and Reports.

Borough of Birkenhead. Report of the Committee of the Birkenhead Free Public Library for the years 1882-3 to 1885-6. 8vo, pp. 19.

There are 29,222 vols. in the Lending Library and 8,156 vols. in the Reference Library. 137,876 vols. were issued for home reading last year, against 125,410 during the previous year. The Reference Library issues increased from 65,349 vols. to 94,848 vols. The total issues for the year exceeded those of the preceding period by 41,965 vols. There was a marked improvement in the class of reading. Buckram is to be largely employed in the Reference Library. The cash receipts amounted to £2,011 and the expenditure to £1,787.

The Birmingham Library. Annual Meeting. Report and Proceedings. January 27th, 1886. pp. 16.

There are 1,591 members who, last year, paid £1,630 in subscriptions. The year's receipts were £1,681, and the expenditure £1,531, inclusive of £60 which was carried to the reserve fund. £586 was expended in the purchase, hire and binding of books. £300 was invested in Corporation 3½ per cent. stock. 984 vols. were added to stock. The Committee record their appreciation of their librarian. How few committees award a mead of praise to their officials!

Brighton Free Library, Museum and Picture Gallery. ... Twelfth Annual Report, for the year 1885. ... Brighton. 8vo, pp. 14.

The Museum Committee report the death of the Chairman, Dr. Davidson, who arranged a portion of the Museum and made many gifts to it. The Trustees of the British Museum presented a series of electrotype casts of their collection of coins, and a collection of fossils. The MS. Catalogue of the Library is reported as completed. The presentations during the year (which included many local works) were numerous and valuable. There are 26,777 vols. in the Library—a Reference Library. The Chairman of the Fine Arts Committee, Mr. Bigge, died in June, 1885. On the occasion of the visit of the British Archæological Association the Water Colour Exhibition was supplemented by a collection of local pictures.

Report of the Mitchell Library, Glasgow, 1885. ... 1886. 8vo, pp. 52.

Continued progress and usefulness are here reported. The large attendance taxed the utmost capacity of the present accommodation. Many valuable gifts are recorded, including the donation of a valuable collection of 500 vols. It is here placed on record that for the adoption of the Libraries Act 22,755 persons voted for and 29,946 against. On the last day of 1885 there were 62,382 books and pamphlets in stock, which included 6,886 vols. purchased during the year. The "Poet's Corner" contains 980 vols.; the Glasgow Printing Section 964 vols., and the Glasgow Local Library over 2,800 vols. The library premises have been extended, but a much larger and convenient building is urgently required. 468,056 vols. were issued, or more than 7 per cent. more than in 1884. More than three million volumes have been issued since the opening of the Library in 1877.

Library and Club (Messrs. Frederick Braby & Co., Limited). Sixteenth Annual Report, 1885-6. London ... 1886. 8vo, pp. 24.

The stock of books was increased during the year to 2,432 vols. The Queen presented a set of Her Majesty's works, and many other books were presented by the firm and local and other friends, including several members of the L.A.U.K. 2,022 vols. were issued for home reading.

Borough of Nottingham. Annual Report of the University College and Free Library Committee, 1885-6. Presented to the Council ... 21st day of June, 1886.

The classes and lectures continued to be well attended. A number of classes for the instruction of Elementary School Teachers were opened. The number of students in the Commercial Department increased considerably during the year. There were 18 students in the Technical Schools. The Lace and Hosiery Classes were well attended, some of the students coming from a distance. There was a change in the Curatorship of the Natural History Museum. The popularity of the libraries greatly increased, the reading room system was developed, and the stock of books considerably augmented during the year. The stock of books reported was 51,366 vols., of which 6,046 were added since the issue of the previous report. A large number of books were presented. 5,600 vols. were rebound or stitched, and all the old bindings were washed and varnished. The issues of books were 319,573 vols. (against 241,260 vols. as previously reported). The issues of periodicals, which were not

included in the above figures, are estimated at 30,000. Since the opening of the Libraries in 1868, 2,765,277 vols. have been issued. There were 11,809 persons entitled to borrow books for home reading. The total attendances at libraries and reading rooms during the year were 1,360,557, or a daily average attendance of 5,367 against the previous year's report estimated attendance of "more than four thousand." One reading room was removed, and four new ones opened. There were 214,154 visitors to the Museum.

Borough of Plymouth. Ninth Annual Report of the Free Public Library and News Rooms Committee ... 8vo, pp. 48.

The Lending Library contains 20,908 vols., of which 1,402 were added during the year reported upon. The Devon and Cornwall Library numbers 2,655 vols. 2,476 borrower's tickets were issued, and 165 withdrawn. The issues from the Reference and Lending Libraries were 158,604 vols. (being a daily average issue of 556), of which total 32,782 vols. (or a daily average of 117) were in the reference library. These are below those of several preceding years, but an improvement in their character is noted. A list of books added to the libraries during the year, the programme of the Library Association Meeting, reports of the proceedings and other useful information are given. There is a balance against the Library of £180.

Borough of Stafford. The Fourth Annual Report of the Free Public Library and News Room, for the year ending June 30th, 1886. 8vo, pp. 14.

There are 5,173 vols. in stock, of which 4,094 are in the Lending Library, and 1,079 in the Reference. 321 borrowers were enrolled during the year ; and the year's issues were 30,553, of which 29,808 were from the lending library. The reading room was well attended.

Borough of Stockport. The Tenth Report of the Public Free Library and Museum Committee. 1885-6. ... 8vo, pp. 26.

During the year 306,892 persons visited the Reading Room, against 180,602 in the preceding year. No purchases were made for the Museum, and only 125 vols. were purchased for the Library, at a cost of £43. 15s. 76,047 vols. were issued from the lending library (being a daily average issue of 258) to 1,214 borrowers. There are 13,000 vols. in the lending library and 6,846 vols. in the reference library. In the latter library the daily average issue was 78 vols., in all 23,026 vols., against 19,847 in the preceding year. The daily average attendance in the Reading Room was 1,036. The number of visitors to the Museum during the year was 26,557. The year's income was £909, and the payments £828. The interest on loans amounts to £142 per annum.

Borough of Stoke-upon-Trent. Seventh Annual Report of the Committee of the Public Free Library and Museum, 1885-6. 8vo, pp. 21.

The Lending Library contains 6,478 vols., and the Reference 1,433. The year's issues were from the Lending Library 35,988 and 2,994 from the Reference Library, a slight increase on the previous year's circulation. The attendance at the Reading Room and Loan Collection was 85,879, or a daily average of 279. The Committee have it under consideration whether the Stoke people would feel the deprivation, if the Sunday opening were discontinued during summer time. Only 14 vols. were purchased during the year; 173 were presented. There is no room for further accessions.

Record of Bibliography and Library Literature.

The Best Hundred Irish Books. Introductory and closing Essays by "Historicus"; and letters by the Archbishop of Cashel, Mr. Parnell, M.P., and others. Reprinted from the *Freeman's Journal*.

This discussion is an offshoot from the similar debate on the best hundred books on general literature recently prompted by Sir John Lubbock's lecture, and has the advantage of greater definiteness of subject. "Historicus," indeed, in introducing it, confined himself almost exclusively to books on Irish history, but most of the participants have interpreted it as comprehending any sort of book likely to interest Irishmen. The value of the suggestions made is very unequal. Some contributors have merely lent their names, more could not be expected from Mr. Parnell, or Mr. Morley, or Lord Hartington. Others, like Mr. Lecky and Sir George Trevelyan, have confined themselves to one or two suggestions ; others have made their communications the vehicle of undisguised propaganda, political or religious ; and there is a general tendency to recommend inferior novels and poems. From this censure we must except the Archbishop of Cashel, who does not "see much need of, or any great

good that can come from, most of our modern publications." The best letters on the whole are perhaps those of Mr. Alfred Webb and President Sullivan, both of which are full of useful suggestions. "Historicus" himself sums up the discussion with much ability, and profits by the hints he has received in his preparation of a list of the best hundred books for the general Irish public, and of five lists of twenty books each for special classes of readers. The little volume, which is published in a very cheap form, may be strongly recommended to librarians likely to be consulted on Irish literature: but it needs to be used with discretion, and in most cases it will be well not to stray beyond the ultimate conclusions of "Historicus" himself.

Old Cookery Books and Ancient Cuisine. By W. Carew Hazlitt. London: Elliot Stock, 1886. sm. 8vo, pp. 271. Price 4s. 6d.

There has been an intimate alliance between literature and gastronomy as far back as the days of Archestratus, and some of the liveliest of books have been devoted to the subject of cookery. No one, however, would discover this from Mr. Hazlitt's work, which is very dull, and never more dull than when it tries to be facetious. The notices of cookery in antiquity are extremely meagre, and Mr. Hazlitt believes that down to the second century B.C. the ancient Greeks were cannibals! The bibliographical part is inadequate: we miss some well-known books, and it is impossible to put confidence in a bibliographer who reproduces the familiar title 'Culina Famulatrix Medicinae' as *Culina Famulatur Medicina* (p. 178). The book abounds in misprints, and the French and Greek are printed without accents.

Bibliographia liturgica: catalogus missalium ritus Latini ab anno MCCCCLXXV. impressorum Collegit W. H. Iacobus Weale. Londini: apud Bernardum Quaritch, 1886. 8vo, pp. xii. 296. Price £1 1s.

The titles of the missals are arranged under dioceses, with references to the libraries where they may be found or the bibliographical works which describe them. A valuable contribution to liturgiology.

The positive library of Auguste Comte; translated and edited by Frederic Harrison. London: Reeves & Turner, 196 Strand, 1886. 8vo, pp. 41. Price 6d.

Mr. Harrison has not only translated Comte's list of books, but has sought out with great pains the precise titles of all them, and has added a brief essay on each division: 1, poetry and fiction; 2, science; 3, history; 4, philosophy and religion.

Wigan Bibliography, a local Catalogue of Wigan-printed books and pamphlets, and the works of authors connected with Wigan and the district collected and preserved in the Reference department of the Wigan Free Public Library. By H. T. Folkard, Librarian. Wigan, 1886. 4to, pp. 27.

A carefully compiled catalogue in which the works are conveniently classified. The books printed before 1800 are arranged chronologically, and the bibliography is followed by a chronological list of Wigan printers.

Bibliographie générale des ouvrages sur la chasse, la venerie et la fauconnerie, publiés ou composés depuis le XV^e^ siècle jusqu'à ce jour en français, latin, allemand, anglais, espagnol, italien, etc., avec des notes critiques et l'indication de leur prix et de leur valeur dans les différentes ventes; par R. Souhart. Paris: P. Rouquette, 1886. 8vo, pp. vii, 750+4. Price £1 5s.

The titles are given in full; they are in alphabetical order, anonymous books, periodicals, &c., being placed apart. There is a very poor analytical index. The notes are more interesting than useful.

Another portion of the Catalogue of the Reference Department of the Birmingham Free Libraries has been issued containing the letters D and E. It represents about 10,000 volumes, and includes the important headings "Dictionaries," "Drama" (with an elaborate index of plays), "Education," "Engineering," "England" and "Exhibitions."

Mr. Charles Calvert, Librarian and Curator of the Free Library and Wragge Museum, Stafford, has published an illustrated "History of Stafford and Guide to the Neighbourhood" (Stafford: Halden & Son, 1886. 8vo, pp. 172), which deserves to have a good sale, not only because "any profit arising from the sale of this work will be given to the *Free Library* for the purchase of books," but because of its intrinsic

merits. Mr. Calvert has put together in an unpretentious way a good deal of historical and practical information. The book is by no means of merely local interest, and we shall be glad to hear that a new edition is speedily required, to which Mr. Calvert would do well to add some account of printing in Stafford.

We are glad to congratulate Mr. Wright upon beginning a sixth series of the *Western Antiquary* in an improved form. No one should suppose that the interest of its pages is confined to the natives of the counties of "Devon, Cornwall and Somerset." The history of these counties is so essential a part of the history of England that they are of universal interest, and every library of any importance should subscribe.

We have received a handsome volume containing a selection of papers read at the Richmond Athenæum, which has been printed and published by Mr. Edward King. Among them we are pleased to notice some "Notes on Libraries and Books," by Mr. Frank Pacy, Librarian of the Free Public Library.

Our member, Mr. Talbot B. Reed, will shortly issue a history of the "Old English Letter Foundries," with notes on the rise and progress of English Typography.

Mr. Melvil Dewey has started a new library journal which is to be exclusively devoted to the practical branches of the subject. It is called *Library Notes*, and will be issued quarterly. The European subscription is 4s. per annum.

We have received the first part of a pamphlet "on the decline and fall of the public library of Cincinnati," which is alleged to be owing to the incompetence of the present librarian, Mr. Chester S. Merrill. It would be manifestly unfair to pronounce an opinion on an ex parte statement, which Mr. Merrill may have the means of satisfactorily refuting. We may venture to remark, however, that if, as asserted, the late excellent librarian, Mr. Vickers, was displaced and Mr. Merrill installed as a result of the triumph of a political party; and if, as is by no means asserted, no deterioration has actually taken place, the latter fact is greatly to Mr. Merrill's credit. To us the melancholy story of neglect and extravagance here recounted would seem, under the circumstances, natural enough. If the American people get any tolerable civil servants under such a system, it is more than they have any right to expect.

Correspondence.

Government Publications.

Leeds: 1st July, 1885.

I enclose you a report of the annual meeting of the Yorkshire College, Leeds, and beg to call your attention to the paragraph stating that the College had received, through the Treasury, a set of the Reports of the Challenger Expedition. This has been done through Mr. Herbert Gladstone. I think that our own and other Public Libraries have a prior claim to such reports than Institutions like the Yorkshire College.

I also enclose letter from the Registrar of the London University in reply to one from myself, regretting that he is unable to present us with a copy of the University Calendar, as it is the property of the Stationery Office: the Universities of Dublin, Durham and St. Andrew's, Trinity College, London, and the University College of Wales send us their calendars regularly, and I think it singular that we cannot have presented to us the London Calendar, especially as it is a Government Publication.

James Yates.

Dr. Anton van der Linde and his Country.

Utrecht: 30 *July*; '86.

Allow me to refute a curious assertion in your number of June. You say there that Dr. Ant. van der Linde "was obliged to leave his country because of the ill-will excited by his destruction of the Coster myth in 1870." It should seem as if the Dutch Government had taken the part of old Coster, and banished Dr. van der Linde from his country! Now it is certain that many absurdities which are told of Holland find belief among a certain class of Englishmen, but I cannot think that *this* should

have been your meaning. I suppose that you intended a *moral* obligation. Now, I can assure you that this also is absolutely false. Dr. van der Linde's destruction of the Coster myth was first published in our chief literary weekly ("De Nederlandsche Spectator"), and not only those who formerly had made researches into this question, as Dr. Campbell (librarian in the Hague) and others, but all impartial scholars rejoiced at the critical examination of it. Some inhabitants of Haarlem, it is true, were very angry that their idol had been so brutally pulled down, but of any other "ill will" excited against Dr. van der Linde I never heard anything.

P. A. TIELE,
Director of the Utrecht University Library.

LIBRARY STATISTICS.

Bradford Free Library, August 12th, 1886.

I should like, with your permission, to support Mr. Yates's suggestion that the Secretary of the Library Association, or someone else competent to deal with the matter, should undertake to compile a reliable table of statistics of the work done in the various Public Libraries, and so serve as a sort of official statement to which we could refer with some degree of satisfaction.

This is desirable for many reasons. In the first place the statistics would be of an unbiassed character. We know from experience that when a Librarian is raking up figures for the sake of comparison, he sometimes unconsciously passes over those which would place the work of his own Library in an unfavourable light; and for this reason it will be better for a disinterested person to take the subject in hand.

Another reason is that a more uniform system of preparing returns would probably result from this arrangement. As it is, I am afraid an accurate comparison of the work done is out of the question. I see in the last number of the LIBRARY CHRONICLE that a Public Library in the South of England has issued in one year more volumes than either Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Sheffield or Newcastle, "although the stock of books is much smaller than at any of the central, and some of the branch Libraries at those important towns." Here we are told, that with a stock of 11,000 books, 325,000 volumes are issued in one year, making a turnover of 29 times, while most Libraries can only manage to make a turnover of 10 or 15 times. If this be the case, then the other Libraries, with their larger stocks of books and thicker population, are either not making the most of their opportunities, or, what is more likely, have a different system of preparing returns. I am persuaded that these discrepancies arise solely from the fact that no common basis has been hitherto worked upon in compiling Library statistics. It is therefore very desirable that the question should be dealt with as early as possible, for until some fixed method is agreed upon between the Librarians themselves, no real comparisons can be made.

There are several ways in which differences arise, one being the manner in which three-volume novels are dealt with. Many Libraries could be mentioned where novels are issued in this bulky and costly form, while on the other hand, Libraries using the one-volume editions necessarily show a reduction of two-thirds in each case. It is evident from this that Libraries using the three-volume form will show a larger issue for the same amount of reading. Another point of difference lies in the treatment of the issue of monthly periodicals. In some Libraries an average is taken of the number of times each periodical is likely to be used per day, and the number is then counted up among the other issues. This method is considerably worse than the other, and can be justified on no ground whatever. It is far better to be under than over the true record.

Other variations might be mentioned, as in the case of the percentage of fiction to the total issue, which many Librarians are laudably anxious to reduce as low as possible; but enough has been said to show that some uniform system is desirable, and the Library Association is obviously the only authority capable of settling the matter satisfactorily.

BUTLER WOOD.

ERRATUM.

In the June number, p. 104, l. 6 from bottom, for "and a" read "for."

Printed and published for the Library Association of the United Kingdom by J. DAVY & SONS, *at the Dryden Press,* 137, *Long Acre, London. Annual Subscription, post free,* 8*s.*

The Library Chronicle.

SCIENCE AND ART: A THEORY OF LIBRARY CLASSIFICATION,[1]

By John Brownbill, M.A.

"SCIENCE and Art," "the true and the beautiful," are familiar phrases expressing a real difference in the impressions made upon our minds by things external. Books being the records of such impressions may be classified accordingly under the two great headings of *Science* and *Art;* the former ministering to the desire of knowledge, the latter to the love of beauty.

In science we have a three-fold division for God, man and nature. We begin with *Theology*, "the Queen of Sciences;" the greatest, whether we regard the Object of it, or its interest and importance to us, or the extent of its literature. From the Source of all things, we pass on to the highest of His works in the world, and take up the *Moral Sciences* which record the thoughts working within man, the relations of man to man, and the course of his external history. Then follow the *Physical Sciences*, which give man a deeper knowledge of God's working.

Art also has a three-fold division: *Literature* in the stricter sense, namely, those writings which appeal to imagination and taste rather than to the desire of knowledge; then *Painting* and its allied arts, which make their appeal to the eye; lastly, *Music.*

There are, of course, a vast number of books which might suitably be placed under more than one of these six divisions. For example: Pascal's "Letters to a Provincial" would be placed under "Theology" if we regarded the polemical intention of the author, but it is more fittingly placed under "Literature" as it is now read rather for its style than its matter. Or, to take a more trivial instance, is "Uncle Remus" to rest amongst "Literature" as a book of amusement, or to rise to a place under "Moral Sciences" as a piece of folk-lore?

Again, there is a whole class of books which are put together on the shelves as "Works of Reference;" separated from the rest either because they aim at giving a sketch of all sciences and art (as Encyclopædias), or because they are scarcely regarded as books at all (as Catalogues, Gazetteers, Almanacs). The Reference Room forms a sort of ante-chamber to the Library; and besides Encyclopædias, Gazetteers, and so on

[1] Read at the Plymouth Meeting, September, 1885.

down to Railway Time Tables, other books will be placed in it according to local circumstances and the character of the subscribers or frequenters of the library.

The two great divisions of Science and Art have been divided into *six* divisions; each of these has now to be divided into its classes, and if it were not too tedious, each class might again be divided into sections, and so on. But a universal knowledge would be necessary for perfect subdivision.

I. Beginning with Theology, the vast majority of our books relate to the Christian religion and the controversies which have arisen in consequence of its propagation. These fall into six classes:

1. *The Bible:* its text and criticism, commentaries, illustrative books (*e.g.* Stanley's "Sinai and Palestine"). Apocryphal books must be placed here.
2. *Dogmatic Theology;* the scientific exposition of Christian teaching, in the whole or as to particular doctrines. Here come the confessions of various Christian bodies, and the controversies belonging to them. The Fathers are placed here, as they are now chiefly required for reference in these quarrels.
3. *Moral Theology;* the application of doctrine to practice; including casuistry and homiletical and devotional books.
4. *Apologetics*; the outworks of the whole. Books on "Natural Theology" (so-called) are best placed here, as they are in the main apologetic.
5. *Church History.* General histories; histories of special churches and periods; missions, biographies of the leaders of ecclesiastical movements.
6. *Church Discipline;* councils and canon law; laws of the several churches; theories of church constitution, rites and liturgies.
7. *Non-Christian Religions;* Judaism and Mohammedanism; Buddhism and other ancient and modern religions; the history of religions.

II. In the Moral Sciences, books fall into four classes.

1. *Language*, the necessary introduction to the study of man's thought and history. It includes comparative and special philology, grammars and dictionaries (where these are not wanted for the Reference Room); critical editions of the classical writers of ancient and modern times, and illustrative works (*e.g.* Bentley's "Phalaris"). To this class also belong works of bibliography, and the book rarities possessed by the library.
2. *Philosophy.* Metaphysics, systems of philosophy ancient and modern, psychology, logic, ethics.
3. *Sociology.* From ethics there is but a short step to law. The history and chief systems of it, especially Roman law and (of course) English law; international law. This leads to political science; then follow political economy (under which section falls the growing literature of "Socialism"); treatises on education (in its widest sense), on military science and on statistics.
4. *History.* The history of any special subject is of course classed with that subject (*e.g.* history of religions). In this class come the books commonly called "Histories;" the original records and chronicles, archaeology and folk-lore. A collection of books on local antiquities will be the desire of every librarian.

III. The Physical Sciences might be divided into as many classes as there are sciences; but a four-fold classification is sufficiently convenient.

1. *Mathematics*, pure and applied. The introduction to all physical science, just as language is to metaphysical science.
2. *Inanimate Nature.* Geography and travels; astronomy (which however may be placed in class 1), then physics (commonly so called), *i. e.* light, heat, sound, electricity and magnetism; and chemistry, with its applications to arts and agriculture; lastly geology and mineralogy.
3. *Animated Nature.* To this class geology leads through palaeontology. Here we have biology, botany, zoology and comparative physiology (from zoophytes up to mammals) and anthropology, anatomy.
4. *Useful Arts.* The books in this class might perhaps be placed under the two preceding; but their technical character makes a special class more appropriate: *e. g.* books on engineering. and mining, ship-building, building, printing, manufactures, commerce, agriculture, domestic economy, medicine and surgery.

Having thus gone through the three divisions of the Sciences, we proceed to the three divisions of the Arts.

IV. Literature is the first of these divisions, and has three classes:

1. *Essays* and Literary Criticism, together with the history of literature. This class includes also such periodicals as the "Contemporary Review," which have no definite aim, being merely collections of essays.
2. *Prose Fiction.*
3. *Poetry* and Dramatic Literature; in which literary form is seen in its highest beauty. The works of poets and dramatists have the first place; then historical and critical works; then works on special points, *e. g.* rhythm and metre.

Works of amusement fall in one or other of the classes of this division.

V. Painting has also three classes:

1. *Painting*, with drawing and engraving. Besides historical and critical works, and collections of prints and drawings, this class receives also illustrated books which are remarkable or valuable for their engravings, "Editions de luxe," etc.
2. *Sculpture* and Architecture.
3. *Landscape Gardening.*

VI. Music. Musical works themselves; the history and criticism of the subject; and the history of special instruments. The theory of music.

At the head of each division must be placed such works as have reference to several of the classes of that division; and at the head of each class, such as refer to several of the subjects included in that class: *e. g.* a periodical like "Nature" would have to be placed in division III (Physical Sciences) before the classes; and one like "Mind" at the head of class 2 (Philosophy) of the Moral Sciences.

After all, it is not always easy to see in which class a particular book ought to be placed. Where is a "Chess Manual" to be put? If it is considered scientific, it must go under the section "Education" in the class "Sociology;" if it is considered a work of amusement, it must go in class 1 under "Literature."

Sometimes, however, the more appropriate class may be found by asking the

question "in which class will a reader be *most likely to look* for it?" Thus, he will look for *Conington's* "Virgil" amongst books on "Language," and for *Dryden's* in "Poetry;" he would expect to find a book on "Primitive Man" amongst Anthropology rather than Geology; and so on.

SCHEME.

REFERENCE LIBRARY.

Ref. 1. Enclopædias; Dictionaries, &c.
Ref. 2. Catalogues; Gazetteers, &c.
Ref. 3. Almanacs and other Year Books.

SCIENCE.

Div. I.—Theology.

Class.
A. Bible. Apocrypha.
B. Dogmatic Theology. The Fathers.
C. Moral Theology. Homiletics.
D. Apologetics. Natural Theology.
E. Church History and Biography. Missions.
F. Church Discipline. Liturgiology.
G. Non-Christian Religions.

Div. II.—Moral Sciences.

H. Language. Bibliography.
K. Philosophy. Psychology. Ethics.
L. Sociology.
M. History. Archæology.

Div. III.—Physical Sciences.

Class.
N. Mathematics.
P. Inanimate Nature { Geography. Physics. / Chemistry. Geology.
Q. Animated Nature { Biology. Botany. / Zoology. Anatomy.
R. Useful Arts.

ART.

Div. IV.—Literature.

S. Essays and Criticism.
T. Prose Fiction.
U. Poetry and Drama. (Works of Amusement.)

Div. V.—Painting.

W. Painting. Drawing. Engraving.
X. Sculpture. Architecture.
Y. Landscape Gardening.

Div. VI.

Z. Music.

THE LIBRARY OF THE ALPINE CLUB,[1]

By Professor Frederick Pollock, Hon. Librarian.

A not uncommon belief about the Alpine Club is that it consists of a number of persons who regard mountains merely as objects of athletic ambition, and for whom the historical, scientific, and artistic interest of the Alps is non-existent or secondary. Certainly the Club is a society primarily of mountaineers, not of antiquaries, or artists, or men of science. But to say that it ignores all interests but the gymnastic one—that in its collective capacity it treats the Alps as "greased poles," is not even a legitimate caricature. Differing in many respects from the most familiar types of literary and social clubs on the one hand, and athletic or sporting clubs on the other, the Alpine Club approaches the literary and social type in that it possesses a certain number of books. It has therefore seemed good to the club to discover among its members one accustomed to reading and writing, and whose mountaineering youth is past, and to constitute him its harmless necessary bookworm, or in official terms, its Honorary Librarian. That bookworm now proposes to give you a short account of the department under his charge, rather seeking to find his own advantage in making the Alpine Club Library better known than expecting that librarians can find anything to learn from it. It is unfortunate that no systematic attention was paid to the formation of a library when the Alpine Club was first established. So far as can now be guessed, it would have been easy to secure at comparatively little expense the nucleus of a collection of Alpine

[1] Read at the Plymouth Meeting, September, 1885.

literature, which by this time would be unsurpassed, if not unique. But opportunities of this kind once lost do not return. As things are, we can only say that we have a sufficient working library of reference on mountain travelling and allied subjects, fair specimens of the older and more curious works, and a fair number of modern continental publications—periodicals, pamphlets, and what-not—of which not many copies can be accessible in England. There is to my certain knowledge one private collection—probably enough there are several—with which we cannot compete in books out of the common run. For about twenty years, in fact, the club library existed rather by accident than on purpose. Books were presented by members and by the authors, English and foreign. As Alpine clubs were formed on the Continent, their periodicals were sent in exchange for the Alpine Journal. These objects occupied space, and had to be put on shelves. This was done, and little or nothing more. Every member had access to the club rooms and to all that was therein; at certain times the meetings of other social clubs were held there, an arrangement no longer in force, and the shelves were equally open in fact, though not of right, to all persons present at those meetings. There was not much to prevent any one from obtaining access at other times who chose to represent himself as a member of the Alpine Club. The rules did not allow books to be taken away, but there was no explicit prohibition. Under such conditions it is more to be wondered at that any of the books were left than that some were missing.

Some half dozen years ago the Committee resolved to take better order in the matter. My predecessor in office, Mr. C. C. Tucker, performed the first indispensable task of making a catalogue, which I have here in print. It is dated 1880. Since that time the number and character of the additions is such that a new issue of the catalogue seems already called for. Thus it will be seen that, once started on the way of improvement, we have not been idle. The existing catalogue is an author catalogue, with a certain admixture of subject entries in the way of cross reference under catch words obviously likely to be useful, such as Caucasus, Glaciers. It would not be difficult to convert it into a systematically combined catalogue of authors and subjects, which, for small and special collections at all events, appears clearly preferable to a name-catalogue with a separate subject-index. This I hope may be done in the course of the revision which cannot be much longer delayed. Adding that, without the aid of Mr. Tucker's work, I could not even have begun mine, I proceed to my own experience. The most pressing question was the safe keeping of the books. Permanent attendance was out of the question, as the rooms are not laid out for permanent occupation, and a special attendant would have nothing to do for days and weeks together. Attendance at stated days and hours was thought of, but a simpler plan was adopted: the books are locked in cases, the working catalogue lies on a table; a member wishing to use the library obtains the key from the housekeeper, on writing his name in a book kept for that purpose. The committee can give leave to take out books on good cause shown. Perhaps these precautions do not come up to the mark of what judicial authorities have described as "consummate care," but so far they have been found sufficient. No light has been thrown, however, on the mysterious character of the former losses. One could understand that a costly or rare Alpine book should disappear if there was nothing but the conscience of book-hunters to prevent it. But my chief troubles were not with works of this kind. The missing items were more apt to be little catch-penny books, and (what is stranger) odd numbers of foreign journals.

Who can the people be that want to convert to their own use a number here and a number there of those vexatious publications, long-winded of names, flapping of texture, and inconvenient of size, which appear in "zwanglos erscheinenden Heften"? I do not know, only they exist, for this kind of thing gave me, for a while, more to do than all the rest of the affairs of the library. The next business was to provide for the continuance and gradual improvement of our collection. Even in proportion to our modest scale, the administrative means were small. I could not devote any certain or considerable amount of time to keeping up the library. Practically, therefore, I had to devise a routine that should be, as near as might be, self-acting. New English books pretty well take care of themselves. Even if the authors do not present them, one is not likely to overlook them. Old books and current continental books were the things to be looked after. I therefore established relations with a trustworthy and well informed bookseller in either line, who undertook to report anything of a *prima facie* Alpine character that came in his way. Besides this, of course, I kept my eyes open for Alpine items in bookseller's catalogues generally. Not unfrequently my attention is called to valuable works by one or another of those members of the club who take an interest in Alpine literature and bibliography. These methods are perhaps of an infantine obviousness and simplicity. But the result is that with a minimum of disposable time and attention, and with a very moderate expenditure, I have been able in five years to make additions to the library to an extent, which, guessing roughly from the general appearance of the working catalogue, I estimate at from 20 to 25 per cent.

The dates of the books I have picked up range from the sixteenth to the present century. First among them I reckon the charming account of the ascent of Pilatus, by Gesner of Zürich (1555), who was not only an eminent naturalist and humanist, but a true father of mountaineers. I think he is about the earliest Alpine traveller who takes a real pleasure in the mountains for their own sake; he waxes eloquent in scorn of the effeminate townbred tourist who thinks the hardships and fatigues (much greater in Gesner's time than now) relatively to the results that could be obtained, are not amply repaid.

The seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries are generally barren of Alpine works; but there are a certain number of books of the Gazetteer sort, including some rather quaint English ones. In this kind we have acquired the *Mercurius Helveticus* (1701). In the latter part of the eighteenth century there sprang up a considerable literature of detailed description and exploration, the forerunners of our modern books of travel and Alpine journals. The French-speaking region of Switzerland and Savoy produced most of these works, though some are in German. Our library now has a good representative collection for this period, though I fear not a complete one. We have lately added two contemporary accounts of the great landslip at Goldau on the lake of Luzern (1806-7). Then the first generation of the nineteenth century produced a crop of elaborately illustrated Alpine portfolios and albums. Napoleon's passage of the Alps and the engineering of the Simplon road had added a military interest to the picturesque one. We have a "Promenade pittoresque de Genève à Milan" in honour of the Simplon, in the original large form and also in a smaller edition a few years later. I confess to a certain delight in these pictures; their texture and scheme of colour, which may be called tea-boardiness *in excelsis*, resemble nothing in nature and are almost unique in art. Of much the same spirit are the collections of Swiss costumes; a very full one in two volumes, by one Yosy, has lately fallen into my hands.

The figures are all conventionally smart and picturesque. Scientific papers and tracts on Alpine subjects form a distinct category. Much matter of this kind naturally finds its place in the publications of the Alpine Club itself and kindred societies. But some is scattered in the transactions of other learned bodies, and must be picked up piecemeal as occasion serves. A bound volume of papers by Murchison on various points of mountain physical geography turned up in a country bookseller's catalogue not long ago. This is the sort of find over which the bookworm of a small collection may be permitted to rejoice in a small way. There is also a religious or semi-religious literature of the Alps. During the reigns of their late Majesties George IV. and William IV. many worthy English Protestants went about Europe,—as often as not taking Switzerland in their tour between France and Italy,—and filled their note-books with remarks on the privileges of those who live under a reformed establishment, and the viciousness, dirtiness, and generally wretched condition of Popish countries. The Vaudois Protestants have also their sub-Alpine evangelical biographies and edifying narrations. Works of this kind add absolutely nothing to our knowledge of the Alps, and are contemptible as literature, being written in the mawkish jargon which seems alike in English and French to be the fitting expression of morbid Calvinistic excitement kept at simmering point. I have not thought it necessary or desirable to acquire more than a few typical specimens of this class.

What I have said of our additions within the last five years may pass as a sample of the general character of our collection. To define Alpine literature is a task I do not feel capable of undertaking: the more so as no systematic classification of our books has yet been attempted, and no rule has even been formulated as to the classes of books which come within our scope. The librarian deals with each case on its own footing. In doubtful cases I should myself lean towards inclusion; if the book were an expensive one, I might refer to the committee. Practically we have aimed at completeness in mountaineering proper, at working utility in the way of general information about the Alps and other great mountains, and at a good choice of specimens in the way of curiosities and miscellanea. We possess a few standard works of reference and a few more or less curious early works on the political history, institutions, and general topography of Switzerland, but we should not go so far with regard to the Caucasus, the Himalayas, or the Andes. In like manner we deem the controversy on Hannibal's passage of the Alps to concern us, and have the tracts of divers learned persons on that subject. There is a grim pleasure in thinking that my friend Mr. Freshfield has lately gone near to show that the learned persons (partly because they had not visited the ground, and knew nothing about mountain passes) were all wrong. Observations of the physical structure of glaciers and other masses of ice in whatever part of the world are fairly within our range. Arctic travel, as travel, I think is not, though our borders have been enlarged in this and other directions by presentation copies. I may mention that a good general account of early Alpine literature is to be found in a lately published book, Peyer's "Geschichte des Reisens in der Schweiz," (Basel, 1885,) and Alpine catalogues are published by H. Georg of Basel. A revised edition of the Alpine Club catalogue may one day supply the foundation of a general Alpine bibliography for English readers.

Concerning the technical details of our library I have very little to tell, partly because in divers respects there are not any. The number of printed volumes may be taken at something under one thousand. We have a fair collection of maps, and a

rough MS. catalogue of them, but we have not space for a proper arrangement even of the books, and any one wanting to consult maps with ease and convenience would probably do better at the Geographical Society. The fact is that the library of the Alpine Club is very little used, and under the peculiar conditions of its existence, it is difficult to see how it can be made more useful. Meanwhile there is no scope for refined devices of any kind. All we can do is to preserve the collection for posterity, keeping it up and improving it, as occasion offers, on the lines I have indicated. But lest I should end in a tone of over much humility, I shall tell you that the Alpine Club has at least produced one rare book. The third volume of the Alpine Journal has long been out of print; it is not easy to meet with at all, and it is very difficult to get a perfect copy with the plates. My own is without them, which I lament mainly for the sake of the delightful cat-faced dragon reproduced from Scheuchzer's *Itinera Alpina* (1723). The original, which we also have in the library, is now, I believe, quite as likely to be procurable as the reproduction.

WHAT OUR READERS *WILL* READ.[1]

By C. W. Sutton, Chief Librarian, Free Public Library, Manchester.

The public has recently been favoured by a number of prominent personages, who may reasonably be considered competent to advise on the matter, with their views on the "best reading." It is no new subject with librarians, either in this country or in America, but it is one full of interest for them; and the members of this Association must have followed the discussion with considerable curiosity. Sir John Lubbock's selection of a hundred books, and the criticisms and additions and eliminations which his list has been subjected to are extremely suggestive. No less so is the admirable address delivered last Saturday by Mr. Goschen on the superior advantages of hearing lectures as compared with the claims of reading. One is sorely tempted to pursue the subject. There are few of us, I suppose, who would not undertake to present a list superior (to our own minds at least) to any that has been published. But the question has been suggested by the secretary that we should inquire what the people do read, so that we may compare it with that they are told they ought to read. The question has been answered from Liverpool by my friend Mr. Peter Cowell, but as a further contribution I offer the result of an examination of some of the work done at the Manchester Free Libraries.

Of course it will be obvious that such comparisons as can be arrived at in this way can by no means be taken as final, since most people who care at all for literature will purchase for their own shelves the works of their favourite authors, and therefore will not need to enquire for them at the libraries. Most of those who can appreciate the "Imitation of Christ," or Jeremy Taylor's "Holy Living," or Keble's "Christian Year," have copies of their own; and the fact that Bishop Taylor's masterpiece was only required twenty-two times at our six lending libraries during the past twelve months, and Thomas à Kempis only twenty times, does not afford a true index to the hold which those books retain on the public mind. The majority of the users of circulating libraries (whether "free" or proprietary) require books of entertainment and not books which demand study or reflection, and hence it is not surprising that the theo-

[1] Read at the March Monthly Meeting of the Library Association.

logical and philosophical authors recommended by Sir John Lubbock are comparatively neglected. At the same time it is pleasing to find that copies of all the works on his list are available for borrowers at one or other of the lending libraries under my charge, and that, with the exceptions of Marivaux and Berkeley and three volumes of Eastern poetry, none has been without a reader during the last year, and though in some cases but a single issue is recorded, on the other hand Gibbon was borrowed by 89 persons, and Bunyan by 150, while the issues of Shakspeare and the novelists are counted by hundreds.

Pursuing the inquiry "what is it that readers do read," we may first glance at a statistical table of the home-reading for one year at the six free lending libraries of Manchester:—

1.—Prose Fiction	474,901	vols.,	being	68 per cent.
2.—Poetry, Philology and General Literature .	93,304	,,	,,	13½ ,,
3.—History, Biography and Travels . .	72,122	,,	,,	10 ,,
4.—Science and Art	45,515	,,	,,	6 ,,
5.—Theology and Philosophy . . .	11,585	,,	,,	2 ,,
6.—Politics and Commerce	3,970	,,	,,	½ ,,

Taking the first division one finds Mrs. Henry Wood and Miss Worboise at the top of the list and Miss Austen very far down indeed. Among the very popular novels the following may be mentioned: Dickens (especially Pickwick and David Copperfield), Sir Walter Scott (Ivanhoe being by far the most in demand), Ainsworth (Lancashire Witches and others), Lever's Charles O'Malley, Lytton's Ernest Maltravers and others, Thackeray (especially Vanity Fair, Esmond and Pendennis), Charles Reade, William Black, Besant and Rice, Blackmore, Charlotte Brontë (Jane Eyre especially), Wilkie Collins (Woman in White being still in the ascendant), Gaskell's Mary Barton, Alexandre Dumas, Braddon, Disraeli, Mark Twain, Cockton's Valentine Vox, Lover's Handy Andy, Marryat's Midshipman Easy and Peter Simple, and some of Anthony Trollope's. The consumption of these books, which "speak of the thousand thumbs that have turned over their pages with delight," is enormous. They have to be replaced again and again with new copies. Hardly less great is the use of the writings of some contemporary romancists not already mentioned, as James Payn and David Christie Murray's Novels, Mrs. Banks' Manchester Man and God's Providence House, Miss Muloch's John Halifax, some of Mrs. Oliphant's and Miss Yonge's, and Mr. Shorthouse's John Inglesant.

Among the boys the books most called for are the stories of Kingston, Ballantyne, Henty and Verne, a few of Marryat's, Tom Brown's School Days, Robinson Crusoe, and the Arabian Nights.

Turning from prose to poetical and dramatic fiction, the present Poet Laureate is found contending with Shakspeare for the first place. Burns, Byron, Longfellow, Milton, Wordsworth and the Brownings have many readers, as have also Scott's Lady of the Lake, Macaulay's Lays, the Poems of Swinburne, Shelley, Moore and Pope, and the Plays of Sheridan and Goldsmith.

Under another heading the Essays of Bacon, Macaulay, Carlyle, Emerson, Lamb, and Froude ("Short Studies") and Max Müller's "Chips" have prominent places.

(*To be continued.*)

LOUGHTON LOPPING HALL LIBRARY.

When the long and tedious process known as the Epping Forest Arbitration came to an end, a sum of £6,000 was awarded to the inhabitants of the village of Loughton as compensation for the loss of the annual right of lopping, which they had exercised through many generations. Of this sum about one-half was devoted to the erection of a Public Hall, one of the numerous chambers in which was dubbed "The Library." By way of justifying its name it possessed, in 1884, a goodly row of shelves, and on them a set of Dickens' Works, contributed by the late Chairman of the London School Board, who lives in a neighbouring parish; sundry volumes given by a then resident in Loughton; and a hundred volumes of novels, purchased from W. H. Smith & Son by the trustees of the hall out of donations received by them. For a subscription list had been opened and some half dozen names entered on it as donors.

In the following year, 1885, Mr. James Salmon, the Secretary of the Railway Officers and Servants' Association, a native of Loughton, though no longer a resident in it, took the matter up, and, by organizing a concert and obtaining fresh donations, raised sufficient money to fill the remaining available shelf-room.

Being interested in books, and (in a modest way) what Mr. Matthew Arnold calls "a lover of education," I offered to act as hon. librarian; and, the trustees having accepted my offer, began my pleasant labours in the summer of last year, by furnishing lists of such books as it was thought desirable to purchase, keeping always in view the amount of money at our disposition.

Some little account of what we have accomplished may, I venture to think, interest those who have already started, or think of starting, libraries in small villages or towns. Moreover, a brief account of the methods we pursue may elicit criticisms which will enable us to amend them.

First, then, with regard to the latter. Our apparatus consists of (1) an account book; (2) adhesive book-labels; (3) a rough register; (4) catalogue cards, similar to those in use in the Guildhall Library; (5) a MS. catalogue book; (6) a register of books lent and returned; (7) a suggestion book; (8) a cyclostyle (for appendices to catalogue); (9) subscribers' tickets.

(1) The account book, in addition to containing the ordinary receipts and expenditure, serves also as a register of subscriptions paid and falling due; for it has been found desirable to allow them to be opened as from any day on which the library is open.

(2) The adhesive labels bear a brief selection from the rules, and indicate the number of days allowed for reading the book, and the fine (1d. per day) incurred for keeping it beyond the time.

(3) The rough register is ruled to take the date; the number and the abbreviated title of the book; its price; its case-letter and shelf-number; the donor's name or any remark of interest concerning it.

The numbers run consecutively, and the last title entered indicates at a glance the number of volumes in the library.

Each new book, having been assigned to its number in the rough register, has that number and the press-mark entered on the label pasted inside its cover. The full title and press-marks are then written on a catalogue-card and the book put in the place it is to occupy. From these cards the entries are made in the MS. catalogue.

It was not easy to determine what divisions into subjects should be adopted, since most methods of classification would have been ridiculously elaborate in the case of so small a collection of books. The following headings were finally adopted, and have hitherto been found to work fairly enough:—Books of Reference; History; Biography; Science, Art and Natural History; Voyages, Travels, Topography and Antiquities; Novels, Romances and Tales; General Literature, Poetry and the Drama; Miscellaneous Works.

The number of books has increased during the course of the year from 200 to 700, and the borrowers (who for the most part pay 1s. for three months) have slowly but surely increased. The number of issues from October, 1885, to date (August, 1886) is just short of 1300. As is usual, the greatest demand is for works of fiction; but historical works and books of natural history are also asked for. The library is open for an hour twice a week for the exchange of books: on Monday, from 4 to 5, and on Thursday, from 8 to 9; the afternoon being more convenient to some and the evening to other classes. The cottagers, many of whom as ancient "Loppers" are free of Hall and Library, avail themselves of the latter, and have through its agency become familiar with Dickens, with Clarke Russell, and with Walter Besant (a great favourite). Villadom runs rather to Mrs. Henry Wood.

The day of small things must not be despised, and hitherto our progress has been fair. Friends in the village, and outside it, have helped with books and money, and since there are no expenses of rent or management, the members' subscriptions also help to fill our shelves.

W. C. W.

The Library Chronicle.

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is issued on the 15th of the month, and communications, books for review, etc., intended for the forthcoming number should be addressed, not later than the 10th of the month, to the Hon. Editor,* ERNEST C. THOMAS, *care of Messrs. J. Davy & Sons, 137, Long Acre, W.C.*

The attention of librarians and library committees, of publishers and booksellers, is called to the advantages of the CHRONICLE *(which represents at least 300 libraries) as an advertising medium. Advertisements of Library Vacancies, and of Books Wanted, or Duplicates for Sale or Exchange by Libraries are inserted at low rates.*

Members of the Library Association whose subscription for the current year has been paid are entitled to receive the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association cannot be responsible for the views expressed by the contributors to the CHRONICLE.

Library Notes and News.

COLCHESTER.—An enquiry into the administration of various local charities, opened at Colchester on August 4th, began by considering 'Archbishop Harsnett's Library.' Mr. Alderman Harvey handed in a report of the proceedings of the Library and Muniment Committee of the Corporation, and a catalogue of the books, which number 818. He hoped that they might get the consent of the ratepayers to form a town library, and that these books might be put in it. He admitted that the books were hardly of a popular character, but said he should be sorry to see them sold. Mr. Batty proposed a resolution to the effect that they should be sold or exchanged for others which would form the nucleus of a useful reference library for the town. After considerable discussion this resolution was withdrawn, and it was agreed to leave the matter in the hands of the Corporation.

EDINBURGH.—The Lord Provost at a meeting of the Edinburgh Town Council held on the 2nd September, intimated that he had received an offer, from Mr. Andrew Carnegie of New York, to subscribe £25,000 for the foundation of a Free Library on condition that the city adopts the Free Libraries' Act and provides the expenses of management. Five years ago the electorate, by a large majority of votes, refused to adopt the Act. The Lord Provost had written to ask Mr. Carnegie whether, in the event of the new municipal buildings being constructed upon such a scale as to admit of the library being accommodated there, he would be willing that it should be so located. Mr. Carnegie has readily acquiesced in this proposal, and has since increased the amount of his promised donation to the munificent sum of £50,000.

HERTFORD.—We are glad to learn that the Corporation are waking up to the necessity of providing a building for the Public Library, which is fast getting too big for its present quarters. Hertford was one of the first among the smaller boroughs to adopt the Libraries Act, which it did in 1855. Since the appointment of the present librarian, Mr. Ernest Lawrence, in 1884, he has managed to acquire about 3,000 volumes, and a donation has just been made of 5,400 volumes from the Hertford Literary and Scientific Institution, which has recently been dissolved. The question of expense is a serious one, as the rate produces only £116 per annum; but we hope that the liberality of some of the richer inhabitants may be stimulated by such an example as that of Mr. Andrew Carnegie.

LEEDS.—The Leeds Town Council has recently negatived a proposal to exercise the powers given under the Free Public Libraries Act, and elect six ratepayers not in the Council as members of the Free Public Library Committee. It was stated by the chairman of the committee that this provision of the Act had been adopted in the case of thirty-six boroughs, and had been found to work advantageously. But only nineteen members voted in favour of the proposal, and thirty-one against, and so the motion was lost.

LIVERPOOL.—The Local Government Board having recently decided that landlords may compound for library and museum rates, which means an annual loss of £1,200 to the library at Liverpool, a special meeting of the Free Library, Museum and Arts Committee was held on August 19. Sir James Picton presided, and gave a convenient summary of information, which had been collected by Mr. Cowell, as to the rating in other towns for library and museum purposes:

In Birkenhead the Council had power to

levy a rate of one penny, which was collected with the poor rate. The cost of collection was consequently nil. In Birmingham they had unlimited powers in rating. Their funds were collected with the borough rates. Last year for libraries alone 1·41d. was collected, for museum and school of art 0·29d., in all 1·70d. In Bradford they had a penny rate, which cost nothing to collect. Under a local act a charge might be made on special occasions for admission to the museum. In Bristol and Leeds they had a penny rate, but in Leicester they had power to levy a rate of 2d., though at present only 1½d. was levied, the cost of collection of which was 2½ per cent. In Manchester they had a penny rate, which being collected with the borough rate cost nothing. The rate was levied upon the gross annual value of property and supported the libraries only. In Nottingham they had power to levy a rate of one penny for the central library and museum alone. An amount equal to ½d. was provided for the branch libraries by the Corporation under a local act, and a sum equal to 1d. for the art gallery was also provided under the same authority. In Oldham the powers were unlimited, and at present 1½d. is levied. In Preston they had power to levy 1½d., which was collected with the poor rate. The rate at present stood at a penny. In Sheffield they had power to levy a penny rate, which was collected with the borough rate, and cost nothing for collection. In Wolverhampton they were in the same position as in Sheffield.

It was finally resolved:—"That the Council be recommended to include in the next application to Parliament power to increase the library and museum rate from one penny in the pound to three-halfpence.

LONDON.—Last year the Corporation of London expended £15,531 on educational works. Of this sum £6,076 were expended in support of the Guildhall Library and Museum.

MANCHESTER.—A gift of a considerable collection of old Manchester play bills has recently been made to the Central Free Library by the sons of the late Mr. W. D. Whitehead. Several smaller collections of play bills relating to those towns have been sent to Liverpool, Stockport, Bolton and Rochdale, and a collection of Drury Lane and Covent Garden bills will be deposited in the British Museum. The distribution has been made by Mr. J. H. Nodal.

NOTTINGHAM.—H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany has presented a fine steel engraving of his late R.H. Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, to the Free Public Reference Library, as a memento of his opening the Central Free Public Library. —Sir John Savile Lumley, the British Ambassador at Rome, has offered to present to the Nottingham Castle Art Museum a collection of specimens of classical antiquity, which he has made on the site of the Temple of Diana, near Rome. The Nottingham Town Council has decided to accept the offer.

WIMBLEDON.—We understand that Mr. Cotgreave is to be the librarian of the new Free Library at Wimbledon, and a notice of the vacancy thus caused at Wandsworth will be found in our advertising pages.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—We have received the list of Saturday evening lectures to be delivered at the Free Library Lecture Hall from October to December. Admission to these lectures is free, but a small admission fee (2d. and 1d.) is charged to a "concert" and a series of "recitals," which lend variety to the programme. We have also before us the programme of the science and art classes for 1886-7.

We have only recently recorded the compliment paid to our colleague, Dr. Small, the librarian of the University of Edinburgh (*see* p. 76), as an acknowledgment of his numerous services to literature. We regret that we have now to record Mr. Small's death at the age of 58.

According to the *Athenæum* the number of readers in the St. Petersburg Public Library has recently increased so much that extensive alterations have been undertaken. The reading room is to be enlarged, and refurnished with comfortable chairs and more convenient writing tables. It will continue as hitherto, isolated by iron partitions from the rest of the library. Smoking has up to now been strictly prohibited throughout the building; a room is henceforth, however, to be set apart for the use of smokers, and various other conveniences are to be introduced.

Library Catalogues and Reports.

Catalogue of the Library of the Royal Colonial Institute, 1886. La. 8vo, pp. x, 179, cloth.

This handsomely printed catalogue has been presented for the use of the members by Mr. C. Washington Eves. The books are classified under the various colonies, and are preceded by two indexes, one of "countries and subjects," and the other of "authors."

Leamington Spa Free Public Library. Catalogue of the Reference Department, 1886. 4to. pp. 73.

The reference library dates only from 1873, but it was only after a bequest of books under the will of Mr. S. L. Saul had been received in 1881 that the committee decided to do their best to develop it. Recently they have received from the Rev. J. A. Beaumont a considerable donation, called "The Beaumont Collection." The catalogue is on the index system, and is well printed.

Cheltenham. First Annual Report of the Public Library Committee, 1884-5. 8vo, pp. 15.

The library was opened on the 13th October, 1884, and appears to be progressing satisfactorily, and is shortly to vacate the premises which it now temporarily occupies, the corporation having purchased a very suitable site for the erection of a new building. This will accommodate the library and schools of science and art. The lending library issued 97,478 volumes during the year to 4,395 borrowers; the reference library 2,130. The number of volumes in the library is 7,323, of which 2,319 have been presented.

Handsworth Public Library. Report of Committee for year ended 25th March, 1886. 8vo, pp. 32.

The sixth report of the committee records satisfactory progress. The number of volumes lent was 48,273, being an increase of 5,261; of volumes issued for reference, 1,559. The number of volumes in the library is 8,536, of which 688 were added during the year. Alterations have been made at the library during the year, and a new reading room was opened at Perry Bar. Full statistical tables are appended.

Annual Supplementary Catalogue of the Liverpool Library (with the Annual Report for 1886). 8vo, pp. 69.

The income for the year was £1,184. 14s. 2d., and a balance remains in hand of £23. 1s. 9d. The issues for the year were 59,344. The want of space is very much felt, and room has only been made by selling of about 1,100 vols. of fiction. This report, which is the one-hundred and twenty-eighth, was presented to the proprietors at the annual meeting on 26th May.

Borough of Wigan. Eighth Annual Report of the Librarian. February, 1886. 8vo, pp. 23.

There are now in the library, exclusive of pamphlets, 29,309 volumes, an increase of 897 volumes during the year. The voluntary rate has enabled the committee to make many purchases which would otherwise have been impossible. In the reference department, 11,186 volumes have been used, whilst from the lending library 62,691 volumes have been issued. The attendances at the news-room have numbered 10,573 on Sundays only, whilst on week-nights it is frequently inconveniently crowded. The report is followed by a list of additions to the reference department.

We have also received the following Supplements:—Third Supplement to the Catalogue of the Cardiff Lending Library, 1886; Cheltenham Public Library: Second Supplement to the Catalogue of the Lending Department, 1885; Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society: Additions to the Library, 1885; Manchester Athenæum: List of Books added to the Library from April, 1884, to April, 1886; Great Western Railway, New Swindon Mechanics' Institution: Third Supplement to Catalogue, 1886.

Record of Bibliography and Library Literature.

The Literature of Local Institutions. By Geo. Laurence Gomme, F.S.A. London: Elliot Stock, 1886. Sm. 8vo, pp. viii, 248.

Mr. Gomme has done a useful piece of work in putting together this account of the literature of his subject, though the book contains some important omissions, notably that of Domesday Book, as well as some more recent authorities. The last edition of Burn's *Justice* was not issued in 1805; and Mr. Gomme appears to be ignorant of the authorship of the well-known "Memorandums" prepared by Mr. R. S. Wright. It is difficult to understand how anybody who is using the authorities at first hand can print such references as "ap. x, Script Twysd," (p. 47 and again p. 49), and "Conf. Heims' *Kr.*" (p. 48); while *usitatem* (p. 49) and *uxoram* (p. 190) can hardly pass muster even as antiquaries' Latin. In his running commentary upon the subject Mr. Gomme displays an irritating habit of speaking of his "faint glimpses into the obvious," as though they were new and wonderful revelations.

Copyright, its Law and its Literature: being a summary of the principles and law of copyright, with especial reference to books. By R. R. Bowker. With a bibliography of literary property by Thorvald Solberg. London and New York, 1886. 4to. pp. [vii], 55, [15], iii, 60. Price 14s.

Mr. Bowker has given in a brief and simple form an excellent account of the present state of the copyright question, which he hopes may be of service in the reform of the American as well as of international law upon the subject. A memorial of American authors, urging the passing of an international copyright law by Congress, is followed by *facsimiles* of the signatures of most of the leading writers across the Atlantic. To the text of the American statutes on the subject Mr. Bowker has added Mr. Justice Stephen's digest of the English law. The book concludes with a full bibliography by Mr. Solberg.

Systematic Catalogue of the Public Library of Milwaukee, with alphabetical author, title and subject Indexes. 1885. Milwaukee, 1885-86. 8vo, pp. clx, 1672 coll. (34).

This very handsome catalogue deserves a fuller notice than can be given here. The body of the work is a classified catalogue under the main classes: 1, Bibliology and unclassified works; 2, Philosophy; 3, Religion and Theology; 4, Sociology; 5, Philology; 6, Natural Science; 7, Useful Arts; 8, Fine Arts; 9, Literature; 10, History and Geography; 11, Biography. It is preceded by directions for use, with lists of abbreviations, and an index of authors, and is followed by a general subject index, and a separate index to Biography. The classification is mainly that of Mr. Dewey, but with important variations. The classification and index as actually used complete the volume.

Annuaire des Bibliothèques et des Archives pour 1886, publié sous les auspices du Ministère de l'Instruction Publique. Paris: Hachette et Cie., 1886. 8vo, ii, 188.

A very useful publication, arranged alphabetically by the names of towns, with an enumeration of the printed catalogues of the respective collections.

Bibliographie de la Guerre Franco-Allemande (1870-1) et de la Commune de 1871: Catalogue de tous les ouvrages publiés en langues française et allemande de 1871 à 1885 inclusivement, suivi d'une table systématique par Albert Schulz. Paris: H. le Soudier, 1886. 8vo, pp. 128. Price 3s.

Short titles, with publishers' names and prices. The arrangement is alphabetical under the following headings: 1, French books: War, Commune; 2, German books: War and Commune; 3, Plans, &c.; 4, Classified Index.

Messrs. Macmillan & Bowes, of Cambridge, propose to reproduce in facsimile the seven books known to have been printed by Siberch at Cambridge, as companion volumes to the reproduction of *Galeni Pergamensis de Temperamentis*, which they issued in 1881. Mr. Bradshaw first determined the order in which these books were printed, and his notes will be issued as an introduction to Bullock's *Oratio*. A copy of the prospectus accompanies the present number of the CHRONICLE.

Mr. E. R. N. Matthews, Librarian of the Bristol Museum and Library, has compiled a "New Illustrated Guide to Bristol and Clifton" (Bristol: W. T. Mack). The libraries of Bristol are described on pp. 35-37.

The Library Bulletin of Cornell University for July contains the first instalment of a list of the "Municipal Documents of American Cities."

H. Welter of Paris announces, under the title of "Excerpta Colombiniana," a bibliography of "quatre cents pièces Gothiques," hitherto undescribed, to which will be prefixed a history of the famous library of Fernand Colombo, son of the great navigator, about which there has recently been so much discussion.

The Smithsonian Report for 1884 contains bibliographies of anthropology, astronomy, chemistry, meteorology, mineralogy, physics, vulcanology and seismology, zoology, and North American invertebrate palaeontology for the year. The number of volumes received and transferred to the Library of Congress or the National Museum during the year was 12,859. The secretary's report contains some new particulars as to James Smithson.

Correspondence.

A Reprint Wanted.

Leeds, Aug. 5, 1886.

I have received a letter from the Secretary of the Cobden Club, in reply to one from myself asking that the Committee of the Club would publish a new edition of Hutton's "Land Banks of Prussia," but they do not see their way to republish it at present.

The above work I have advertised for in the *Bookseller*, and also for Col. Ouvry's "Land Question in Prussia," but without success; so that, with the exception of fragments to be found under Prussian Agrarian Legislature, &c., in Poole's Index to Periodicals, the question is unrepresented by any literature on our shelves, and as the applications on the subject are so earnest here, perhaps it is the same elsewhere.

James Yates.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

At the Ninth Annual Meeting, which will be held by permission of the Honourable Society of Gray's Inn in their Hall and Library, there bids fair to be a very full attendance of members. The chair will be taken by the Principal Librarian of the British Museum on Tuesday, September 28th, at 10.30.

The papers to be read will include, "On the Arrangement and Preservation of Manuscripts," by Mr. E. Maunde Thompson, Keeper of the MSS., British Museum; "The Use and Arrangement of Law Libraries," by Professor F. Pollock; "On Library Statistics," by Mr. J. D. Mullins, Librarian, Free Libraries, Birmingham; "On Libraries and Librarianship in Germany," by Professor Carl Dziatzko, Librarian of the University of Göttingen; "Municipal Libraries and Suburban Districts," by Mr. W. H. K. Wright, Borough Librarian, Plymouth; "The Libraries of the Far East," by Professor R. K. Douglas, of the British Museum; "Changes at the British Museum since 1877," by Dr. Richard Garnett, of the British Museum; "Libraries for the Blind," by Mr. J. Potter Briscoe, Librarian, Free Public Library, Nottingham; "A Plea for a Classification Scheme," by Mr. W. May, Librarian, Free Public Library, Birkenhead; "On the Classification of Shakespeareana," by Mr. H. R. Tedder, Librarian of the Athenæum Club, and "Practical Suggestions on Bookbinding," by Mr. J. W. Zaehnsdorf.

It is proposed to pay visits to the British Museum, where the Members will be received by Mr. Bond; to Lambeth Palace, where Dr. W. Sparrow Simpson, one of the Hon. Librarians of Lambeth Library, has kindly consented to attend; to the Record Office and Sion College; and finally, on Friday, to Windsor Castle, where Mr. Holmes, the Queen's Librarian, has been good enough to promise to do all he can to make the visit enjoyable.

All communications should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, 2, South Square, Gray's Inn, London, W.C.

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The Library Chronicle.

THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION IN LONDON.

THE Ninth Annual Meeting of the Library Association was held on Tuesday the 28th September and two following days, at the Hall and Library of the Hon. Society of Gray's Inn, which had been kindly placed at the disposal of the Association by the Treasurer and Masters of the Bench. Upwards of 170 Members and Associates were present, and amongst the visitors were the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor (Alderman Staples), His Honour Judge Russell, Master of the Library, Gray's Inn, Masters Beetham, Francis, Griffith, Jeremy and Sheil, and Mr. Joseph Brown, Q.C., Chairman of the Library Committee, Middle Temple.

The following are the names of the new members announced or elected:—Mr. George Bell; Mr. L. Dillon, Assistant-Librarian, Free Library, Manchester; Mr. Alderman Lupton, Chairman of the Public Library Committee, Leeds; Mr. Harry Rawson, Deputy-Chairman of the Free Library Committee, Manchester; Professor Wm. Robertson Smith, University Librarian, Cambridge; Mr. W. A. Taylor, Librarian, Public Free Library, Hanley; and Mr. W. Thomson. The following are the names of the Associates:—Messrs. S. J. Aldrich, British Museum; J. P. Anderson, British Museum; G. F. Barwick, British Museum; F. E. Blackstone, British Museum; Mrs. Bullen; Messrs. F. Campbell, British Museum; D. Eccles, British Museum; E. W. Garnett; R. E. Graves, British Museum; Miss C. Hobbes; Miss F. Hobbes; Messrs. R. G. Janion; H. M. Mayhew, British Museum; A. W. K. Miller, British Museum; A. W. Pollard, British Museum; Miss L. Toulmin Smith; Messrs. W. B. Squire, British Museum; D. Van Straater; G. E. Waters, and W. R. Wilson, British Museum.

The proceedings were begun by a Meeting of the Council in the Pension Room. The Meeting of the Association began at 10.30, when the chair was taken by the President. After the usual formal business, Dr. Bond (the Principal Librarian of the British Museum), delivered an address, in which he congratulated the Association on attaining the tenth year of its existence. The Lord Mayor moved a vote of thanks to the President for his address, and the President having briefly acknowledged the compliment: a resolution was passed on the motion of Mr. Chancellor Christie expressing regret at the loss the Association had sustained in the death of Dr. J. Small, Librarian of Edinburgh University, and their sympathy with his relatives. Prof. W. P. Dickson, of Glasgow, was also requested to contribute a memoir of Dr. Small to the Proceedings. The President called upon Mr. E. Maunde Thompson, Keeper of the MSS. at the British Museum, to

read a paper on the "Arrangement and Preservation of Manuscripts," which was followed by a discussion in which Mr. Sam Timmins and Dr. Seligmann took part. Professor F. Pollock then read a paper on "The Use and Arrangement of Law Libraries," Mr. G. Bullen and Mr. Joseph Brown, Q.C., taking part in the discussion.

Mr. J. D. Mullins read a paper on "Library Statistics," and moved—"That the Council be requested to consider and report on the best mode of making Library Statistics of both possession and issue, so as to form a fair basis of comparison of the contents and work of the various Institutions." The motion was seconded by Mr. Yates and carried unanimously; after which the Meeting adjourned.

On the invitation of the Treasurer (Mr. W. Brown) and Benchers, the Members of the Association took luncheon in the Hall of the Society of Gray's Inn. Judge Russell presided at the luncheon, after which the toasts of "The Queen" and of "The Prince and the Princess of Wales, and the other Members of the Royal Family," were duly honoured. "The Library Association" was then proposed by the Chairman, and responded to by the President, who proposed "The Honourable Society of Gray's Inn," which was acknowledged by the Chairman. The toast of the "Lord Mayor" was proposed by the Chairman, and his Lordship replied. After luncheon the Members of the Association paid a visit to Lambeth Palace and Library, where they were conducted by Dr. W. Sparrow Simpson, one of the Honorary Librarians.

On Wednesday morning the discussion on "Library Statistics" was resumed by Mr. W. H. K. Wright and Mr. Mullins. The Reports of the Council and of the Treasurer and Auditors were then considered and adopted. The Hon. Secretary then read a paper contributed by Professor Carl Dziatzko, Librarian of the University of Göttingen, on "Libraries and Librarianship in Germany;" a brief discussion ensued, in which Mr. Bullen and Dr. Seligmann took part. The question of "Library Legislation" was then considered, and the Chairman (Mr. Tonks) moved the following resolutions, which were seconded by Mr. Tedder and carried unanimously:—

"That it is expedient to re-introduce the Free Libraries Bill introduced by Mr. Hopwood.

"That a Parliamentary Committee be appointed, to consist of the Members of the Council, with power to add to their number."

Mr. W. H. K. Wright read a paper on "Municipal Libraries and Suburban Districts," and a discussion followed in which Mr. Tonks, Mr. Pink, and Professor F. Pollock took part. Professor R. Douglas, Assistant-Keeper of Printed Books in the British Museum, read a paper on "The Libraries of the Far East." Dr. Garnett, Assistant-Keeper of Printed Books in the British Museum, read a paper on "Changes at the British Museum since 1877." The Meeting then adjourned.

The Members visited the British Museum in the afternoon, and, after being conducted over the library and inspecting some books laid out for their examination, attended a reception given by Dr. and Mrs. Bond; they afterwards dined together at the First Avenue Hotel, Dr. Bond presiding. The toasts were "The Queen," proposed by the Chairman; "The Library Association," proposed by the Chairman, and acknowledged by Mr. J. D. Mullins; "Literature," proposed by Mr. Sam. Timmins, and responded to by Professor F. Pollock; "Library Committees," proposed by Mr. P. Cowell, and replied to by Mr. Tonks; "The Officers," proposed by the Chairman, and acknowledged by Mr. E. C. Thomas and Mr. W. R. Douthwaite; "The Honourable

Society of Gray's Inn," proposed by the Chairman, and responded to by the Rev. Dr. Stokoe (Preacher to the Society), and "The Chairman," proposed by Mr. H. R. Tedder.

The Meeting was resumed on Thursday morning at 10 A.M., Mr. Chancellor Christie presiding. Mr. J. P. Briscoe read a paper entitled "Libraries for the Blind." A discussion followed, in which Mr. J. R. Welch, Mr. W. E. Axon, and Mr. P. Cowell took part. Mr. W. May next read a paper, "A Plea for a Classification Scheme." A discussion upon this important subject followed, in which Mr. Mullins, Mr. Cowell and several other members took part.

The Chairman read the report of the Examiners for the prize offered by Mr. E. M. Borrajo for the best essay "On the extension of the Free Libraries Acts to small places." The Prize was awarded to Mr. J. J. Ogle, Assistant Librarian, Free Public Library, Nottingham. The Examiners were the Rev. J. C. Hudson and Messrs. C. Madeley and C. W. Sutton, who suggested that Mr. Ogle's paper should be published in the LIBRARY CHRONICLE.

At the afternoon sitting Mr. H. R. Tedder read a paper on "The Classification of Shakespeareana." Mr. J. W. Zaehnsdorf read a paper "Practical suggestions on Book-binding," and a discussion followed. A motion embodying some suggestions made by Mr. W. H. K. Wright was agreed to:—

> "That the use of Free Public Libraries be extended to residents beyond the rating area, on payment by them of a subscription equivalent to the rate imposed by the Act."

The ballot for the election of officers for 1886-7 resulted as follows:—President [no nomination.] There were only twelve members nominated for the office of Vice-President, and all were elected, the two new names being those of Mr. J. T. Clark and Prof. W. Robertson Smith. London Members of Council:—J. B. Bailey, Resident Librarian, Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society; E. M. Borrajo; W. R. Douthwaite, Gray's Inn Library; Dr. Garnett, Assistant Keeper of Printed Books, British Museum; W. H. Overall, Librarian, Guildhall Library; Prof. F. Pollock, Hon. Librarian, Alpine Club; Dr. Sparrow Simpson, Librarian, St. Paul's Cathedral Library, and H. R. Tedder, Librarian, Athenæum Club.

Country Members of Council:—W. Archer, Librarian, National Library of Ireland; F. T. Barrett, Librarian, Mitchell Library, Glasgow; J. P. Briscoe, Librarian, Free Libraries, Nottingham; H. T. Folkard, Librarian, Free Library, Wigan; W. J. Haggerston, Librarian, Public Libraries, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Rev. J. C. Hudson, Librarian, Mechanics' Institute, Horncastle; J. Y. W. MacAlister, Librarian, Leeds Library, Leeds; C. Madeley, Librarian, The Museum, Warrington; W. May, Librarian, Free Library, Birkenhead; C. E. Scarse, Librarian, Birmingham Library; W. H. K. Wright, Borough Librarian, Plymouth; J. Yates, Librarian, Public Library, Leeds.

The Scrutineers were Mr. J. D. Buckland and Mr. J. W. Knapman.

On the invitation of Mr. Timmins it was decided to meet next year in Birmingham. The business of the Meeting concluded with the customary votes of thanks, which on this occasion included the Honourable Society of Gray's Inn, proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Yates and replied to by Master Griffith; the President, proposed by Mr. Rawson, and seconded by Mr. Cowell; the Officers of the Association; and the Hon. Local Secretary, Mr. W. R. Douthwaite. The latter votes were acknowledged by Mr. Thomas and Mr. Douthwaite, and then the formal proceedings

terminated. During the afternoon the Members visited the Record Office, where they were shown over the building by Mr. Bird.

On Friday, the 1st of October, after a vote of thanks to the President, a party of nearly a hundred Members visited Windsor, and were received by the Queen's Librarian, Mr. R. R. Holmes, who conducted them over the Royal Library, and afterwards (by special permission of the Lord Chamberlain), took them through the corridor and other apartments not usually shown. The Rev. Canon Capel Cure showed the Library of the Dean and Chapter; and a portion of the party afterwards visited the Library and Chapel at Eton College.

WHAT OUR READERS *WILL* READ.[1]

By C. W. Sutton, Chief Librarian, Free Public Library, Manchester.

(*Continued from p.* 141.)

A not unimportant proportion of the total issues in the second division is made up of bound volumes of magazines, which circulate, for the most part, for the sake of the serial tales contained in them.

Histories of our own country, and annals of its military and naval achievements, are exceedingly popular. Cassell's Illustrated History, Green's English People, Macaulay's and Froude's Histories, Allen's Battles of the Navy, Ball's Indian Mutiny, Kinglake's Crimea, Grant's British Battles, Lecky's Eighteenth Century, are among the most frequently used of historical books. Carlyle's French Revolution and Ollier's Franco-German War are the most used of foreign histories.

Some of the popular biographies are, Maxwell's Wellington, Southey's Nelson, Forster's Dickens, Carlyle's Reminiscences and his Cromwell, most of the Lives of Napoleon, Boswell's Johnson, Irving's Columbus and Washington, Trollope's Autobiography, George Eliot's Life and (for the present) Hake's General Gordon. Dr. Smiles' Self Help and similar books, containing as they do much biographical matter, may be mentioned in this connection; they attract many readers.

Books of travel do not come behind history and biography in the interest they have among the people. Just now there is a great run on Stanley's Congo and Mr. H. H. Johnston's works, but Stanley's Dark Continent and his Search for Livingstone are still asked for. Lady Brassey's Sunbeam, Miss Gordon Cumming's Lady's Cruise, Miss Bird's delightful volumes, Livingstone's South Africa, Wallace's Malay Archipelago, Bates's Amazons, Burnaby's Khiva, and Cook's Voyages circulate largely. So do such compilations as Bates's Illustrated Travels, and Cassell's Countries of the World.

In the next division (science and art) there is a considerable demand for "popular science" treatises by Proctor, Tyndall and Huxley; for Darwin's Origin of Species and Descent of Man, Lyell and Geikie's works on Geology, Ganot's Physics, Roscoe's Chemistry, treatises on anatomy and physiology by Foster, Kirkes, Marshall and Gray, on medicine and hygiene by Richardson and others, on botany by Bentley, Hibberd and Grindon, and the Illustrated Natural History published by Cassell. Handbooks treating of the staple industries of the district are always in the hands of borrowers.

We are happy in having in several of the branch libraries at Manchester a fair collection of Ruskin's Works, and his Modern Painters and Stones of Venice, as well as his smaller works, are in satisfactory request. The bound volumes of the Magazine

[1] Read at the March Monthly Meeting of the Library Association.

of Art circulate freely on account of their attractive illustrations, while there is a good demand for art hand-books of various kinds.

Our theological readers do not as a rule go very deeply into their subject. At present the most popular book appears to be Drummond's Natural Law; next come Farrar's Life of Christ, his St. Paul, and his Early Days of Christianity, and there is a fair proportion of readers of Trench on the Parables and Miracles, Stanley's Jewish Church, Conybeare and Howson's St. Paul, Geikie's Life of Christ, the Unseen World, Seeley's Ecce Homo, Paley's Evidences, Butler's Analogy, and various Commentaries on the Holy Scriptures.

In philosophy, the following may be counted as the most popular works: Mill's Logic, Herbert Spencer's First Principles and Sociology, Jevons' Logic, Locke on the Understanding, Plato (Jowett's and others), Draper's Intellectual Development of Europe, Bain's Mental and Moral Science, and Lecky's Rationalism.

The last section is that of politics and commerce, in which the works most in request are the treatises of Mill, Fawcett and Rogers on Political Economy, Smith's Wealth of Nations, Bright's Speeches, and various writings of Ruskin, Bain, Jevons, Mallock and Bagehot. Perhaps Henry George's Progress and Poverty, and Social Problems are as popular with our readers as any economic books of the day.

Having said so much about the character of the reading at a series of lending libraries, such as may be typical of similar institutions in many large towns, I should like if it would not be wearisome, to add an analysis of a day's reading at our Free Reference Library, which is frequented by people of all grades—professional, mercantile and artizan. Taking at random a bundle of tickets, I find that they bear the date of February 22nd, 1886, on which day the total number of books consulted in the reading rooms of the Reference Library was 1103. Out of this number, only 50 volumes come under the category of Theology and Philosophy; 18 of these were volumes of the "Speaker's," "Pulpit," "Clarke's," and other Commentaries, and the remainder included a Greek Testament, Farrar's Life of Christ, the Koran, Drummond's Natural Law, Cardinal Newman's Essays, Works by Strauss and Renan, Bain's Moral Science, Morley on Compromise, Marcus Aurelius, St. Augustine's Epistles, and some books on Hindu Mythology and Cosmic Philosophy.

There were 179 volumes of history, travel and biography; including, in ancient history, Rawlinson's Ancient Monarchies, Herodotus, Lenormant, Arnold's Rome, and Bunbury's Ancient Geography; in ecclesiastical history, D'Aubigné's Reformation, Marchant's Inquisition, and Neal's Puritans; in English history, Froude's English in Ireland, Giraldus Cambrensis, Kennett's History, Green's English People, Cassell's England, Secret History of England, Smeeton's Historical Tracts, Neal's New England, Hall's History of Nantwich, Aikin's Manchester, Histories of the Isle of Man.

Among the books of geography and travel are Black's and Johnston's Atlases, and some Ordnance Maps; Froude's Oceana, Nordenskjold's Voyages, Jukes' Voyage of H.M.S. Fly; several works on Florida and Australia, probably "got out" by intending emigrants, half-a-dozen books on Africa, and others on the Amazons and other quarters of the globe.

Of biography and genealogy there were readers for lives of Gladstone, Beaconsfield, Moffat the missionary, Byron, Mahomet, the Earl of Orford, Grantley Berkeley, Louis XIV., and Daniel O'Connell; Burke's Heraldic Illustrations and Extinct Baronetcies, Sims' Index, and Walford's County Families.

Of commercial directories of various parts of the world, 109 volumes were consulted. The same number of specifications of patents were examined, and 51 files of newspapers were asked for, being back volumes of the Times, the London Gazette, and the local newspapers.

Fifty volumes of political and commercial works included Martin's Ireland, Parliamentary papers on Orangeism, &c., Jevons' Investigations in Currency and Finance, Walker's Political Economy, pamphlets on strikes, insurance and home rule, Wilson on Capital, Beaconsfield's Speeches, Bagehot's Lombard Street, the Counting House Dictionary, the Student's Blackstone, Patent Law, University Calendars, Hansard's Debates, and United States' Circulars on Education, &c.

The issues in science and art make an interesting list. The total was 321 volumes. The titles include the following among others: Ledger on the Sun and Planets, Nichols' Architecture of the Heavens, Narrien's History of Astronomy, System of the World, Horological Journal, Geikie's Great Ice Age, Huxley's Physiography, Manual of Precious Stones, several works on the Microscope, Darwin on Fertilization, Haeckel on Evolution, Forbes' Star-Fishes, Morris' Nests and Eggs, Jeffries' Wild Life, Yarrell's Birds, Bewick's Birds, Seebohm's Birds, White's Selborne, Hydroid Zoophytes, Figuier's Vegetable World, Sieghem's Traité de Botanique, Sachs' Botany, De Bary's Vegetable Anatomy, Sowerby's Botany, Harvey's Phycologia, Cooke's Fungi, Practical Gardening, Laurie's Homœopathic Medicine, Marshall's Anatomy and Physiology, Mechanism of the Voice, Nichols' Physiology, Richerand's Physiology, Medical Dictionary, Gray's Anatomy, Wood's Household Medicine, Ross on Nervous Diseases, Fothergill and Richardson on Health, Thompson's Dynamo-Electric Machines, Hospitallier's Domestic Electricity, Tyndall on Heat, Gordon's Electricity and Magnetism, Todhunter and Potts' editions of Euclid, Unwin's Machine Design, Rigg on the Steam Engine, Fairbairn on Engineering, Wilson on Boilers, Cooley and Spon's Receipt Books, Roscoe and Schorlemmer's Chemistry, Brande's Chemistry, Journal of the Chemical Society, Gwilt's Dictionary of Architecture, Building Construction, Viollet-le-Duc's Dictionnaire de l'Architecture, Parker's Glossary, House Decoration, Bowman on Wool Fibre, Sizing of Cotton Goods, Works' Manager's Hand-Book, Tailor's Art of Cutting, Moulder's and Founder's Guide, Humphreys on Illumination, Walton's Alpine Vignettes, Zahn's Pompeii, Practice of Photography, Dictionary of Painters, Sketching from Nature, Wilton House Sculptures, Paris Salon, Chaffers' Monograms, Field's Chromatography, Hogarth's Works, Macfarren's Harmony, Helmholtz on Harmony, Ouseley on Fugue, Hopkins on the Organ, and Grove's Dictionary of Music.

Twenty-five dictionaries and grammars of various languages and one volume of Hübner's Corpus Inscriptionum were used. Eight classics (Homer, Ovid, Euripides, Demosthenes, &c.) were consulted. Thirty-six volumes of poetry, including Burns, Longfellow, Shakspeare, Goethe, Calverley, Tupper, Byron, Lessing, Milton, Tennyson, Gray, Lytton, Calderon, and Dryden were applied for. Twenty-nine novels by Dickens, Cervantes, Smollett, Fielding, Ainsworth, Beaconsfield, Lytton, Kingsley, Le Sage and Thackeray were read or partially read; and seventy-three volumes of magazines, twenty-eight of the Illustrated London News and Graphic, besides sundry encyclopædias, hand-books of quotations, and other works were referred to.

This record of a single day's work in the reading room of the reference library of a large town is a convincing proof that the thirst for knowledge is very keen, and that the librarian's endeavours to gratify it are not in vain.

THE EARLIEST ENGLISH FREE LIBRARIES.[1]

By JOHN TAYLOR, City Librarian, Bristol.

IT will be found by reference to the article "Libraries," in the new edition of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, that the first Free Library Act was passed in 1850, and that the Manchester Free Library, which was opened in the same year, was the first to be established under Parliamentary authority by virtue of this enactment. In that article it is also stated that the fine old library instituted by Humphrey Chetham, in Manchester, in 1653 and which is still "housed in the old Collegiate buildings, where Ralegh was once entertained by Dr. Dee," might be said to be the first free library. It is purposed here to controvert this statement, and to show that Bristol may claim the honour of having founded a Free Library in her midst two centuries earlier than the date of Chetham's Library; and also that a second public library was established in Bristol in 1613, or forty years previous to that of Manchester.

Close to the Exchange, Bristol, is a church dedicated to All Saints, which, judging from the Italian campanile, might have been built in the last century, though the windows of the north aisle, against the street, would indicate the date of that portion to be as far back as the fifteenth century. An examination of the interior, however, will discover that litanies must have been chanted within its precincts as early as the twelfth century, for immediately within the western entrance is a group of four circular piers with Norman capitals and of low elevation, having been dwarfed to support a house or chamber erected over that end of either aisle of the church. Over the south aisle, forming the south-west angle or portion of the building, one of these houses remains, and from an apartment within it a view of the interior of the sacred building can be obtained. It was built about 1422, and was the abode of the Vicar of All Saints. A corresponding structure over the north aisle was destroyed in the last century, and its site is now occupied by some insurance offices. A view of the church, with these domestic additions, as they appeared before being superseded by the present building, may be seen in Barrett's *History of Bristol*. This apartment or upper room, which extended the length of the nave, served as the college and library of a fraternity of semi-monastics, named Kalendaries, and the four pillars before adverted to are the only portion that remains of a twelfth century church in which they worshipped. A fifteenth century building of loftier elevation, with light clustered columns, pointed arches and broad windows of perpendicular tracery, opens airily from the depressed narthex, as it might be called, which comprises the remains of the original fabric; while on the north side (as already said) a modern house covers the site of the Kalendaries' College and Library. The Kalendars were a brotherhood of the clergy and laity, men and women of the people of Bristol, who formerly met at the Church of the Holy Trinity on the south-west of the High Cross in the centre of the town, but who for some reason not clearly explained, removed to Alhallowen or Allsaints, a few hundred yards westward. Of the antiquity of the local institution of the guild there can be no question, though, whether it was of Roman origin, as various circumstances associated with it led Mr. Cornelius Walford to infer, may be left a question. William Wyrcestre, who flourished in the middle of the fifteenth century, asserts on the authority of a MS. which

[1] Read at the Plymouth Meeting, September, 1885. The paper in a fuller form has been printed by Mr. Dromgoole, St. Helens, from whom it may be obtained. Price 6d.

he saw, that the guild was established in the year 700, and he credits its claim to be one of the oldest fraternities in England. (*Walford's Antiquarian*, August 1885, page 76). It was of semi-religious character, the office of the college being to instruct youth, convert Jews and other strangers, and to keep a calendar or monthly register of public Acts, to conserve the archives of the town, etc. Of its constitution we discover some relation in an inquisition taken by Thomas, Bishop of Worcester, in Bristol, July 10th, 1340, who confirmed the ancient rules. The college was to consist of a prior-priest, chosen by the chaplain and his brethren, without any solemnity of consecration to follow; eight chaplains or secular brothers, besides certain of the laity, male and female, who are termed in the records "good doers" and who had an interest in the prayers of the community by reason of their benefactions to the church. By an ordinance of John, Bishop of Worcester, A.D. 1464, the Prior was constantly to reside in the house of the Kalendars, and take custody of a certain library, newly erected at the Bishop's expense, in the same house, so that at every festival day (and holidays in olden time were not sparingly distributed through the year) from seven to eleven in the forenoon, free access should be allowed to all willing to receive instruction, the Prior undertaking to explain difficult passages of Holy Scripture to the best of his knowledge, and to give a public lecture in the Library every week. This fact supplies evidence against the popular belief of later times, that the Bible was a lightly valued book in old days, and restrained from the knowledge of the people. Lest through negligence the books should be lost or alienated, it was ordered that three catalogues of them should be kept, one to remain with the Dean of Augustinian canons, another with the Mayor for the time being, and the third with the Prior himself. The Bishop also enjoined that once every year there should be a due collation of all the books with the inventories or catalogues, by the Dean, the Prior, and another appointed by the Mayor, between the Feast of St. Michael and Allsaints; and if it should happen that through the neglect of the Prior some book should be carried out of the library and stolen, the prior was to restore the book to the library, under a penalty of forty shillings above its true value, and if he could not restore it again, then he was to pay the value of the book, and forty shillings besides,—twenty shillings to the Mayor, and the rest for the benefit of the library chaining the books, etc. Whenever the Prior or any of his chantry priests discoursed to the towns-people, whether at the High Cross near their own church, or in the conventual church of St. Augustine, to whose monastery, we should have earlier stated, the house of the Kalendars was affiliated, in their sermons they were to pray for the welfare of the Bishop while living, and for his soul when departed, and also for the Mayor for the time being, as patron of the house. To the Prior, for his personally residing at the library, and his diligence about the books therein, was to be paid annually out of the proceeds of the guild, ten pounds yearly, in quarterly portions. And if the Prior absent himself for some honest cause, he was to declare the reason, to be approved of or not by the Bishop or the Mayor, so that he may by no means be absent above one month in a year together or at times, unless upon very urgent occasions, to be approved of by the Bishop or the Mayor; and then, in his absence, the senior brother would have the keeping of the library. At his institution the Prior was to swear obedience to these requirements of his office, and no Prior was ever to obtain release from the ordinances he had been sworn to observe, under penalty of privation. This was signed by John Harlowe, Prior, and John Shipward, Mayor, in expression of their consent.

We may hence conclude that as early as A.D. 1464 a Library was established in

Bristol, to which the townsmen had free access, and that to increase its usefulness, free lectures were delivered within its walls.

This was the year when Queen Margaret once more gathered her army, and returning from Scotland, was again joined by Somerset and the Percies, to be again defeated by the triumphant Edward of York, to meet whom she had marched. But the Kalendar Prior, in the cloistral fold of his library, was undisturbed by the commotion abroad in the realm, only the footsteps now and then, and the voice of some earnest seeker after knowledge, breaking on the solemnity of his quietude. It was but old-fashioned scholarship that he taught, for the fierce light of physical science had not then beamed, and the education of the heart was more regarded than that of the intellect and senses.

Hitherto, in our account of this early Free Library, we have not made use of an eloquently-written work, entitled *The Kalendars of Al-Hallowen, Brystowe*, by the Rev. Henry Rogers, Vicar of that church; Bristol, 1846. There is a glow of feeling in this sympathetically-written book that sometimes carries the author away from the boundary of matter-of-fact into the realm of romance, but there is also an infusion of the mediæval spirit that keeps the reader in touch throughout the volume with the solemn fraternity whose history is its basis. On this account the work may be recommended to anyone interested in its subject. There is, however, preserved among the church muniments a venerable tome in the handwriting of the brotherhood themselves, and which gives so curious a picture of the ecclesiastical regulations and workings of a guild of the fifteenth century, that a few extracts from it in illustration of the internal life of the Kalendars may not be unacceptable. Happily, of the contents of their library, this, which was probably the most interesting, has been preserved in fair completeness, and might well be recommended to the attention of the Camden Society, who have certainly printed much less important documents of the kind. Records of benefactions to the Church are prominent among the entries, and in this respect the priors of the community and the vicars of the Church, who were generally elected from the priors, are conspicuous for their bounty. Sir John Gyllard, Prior of the Kalendaries ("Sir," it should be remembered, was in those days a clerical prefix, as well as knightly), who died in 1451, constructed a curious wainscot ceiling over the north aisle, called the Jesus aisle of All Saints Church, and "worshipfully glazed it with the story of *Te Deum Laudamus;* and built anew the Chapel of St. Mary, on the same side of the church, at the cost of £227." He also constructed a large room "over the said Chapel of our Lady, for an easement unto the Prior and his brethren." This incorporated the Library.

A notable benefactor, also, was William Wytteney, who had "let, ordeyn and let made of his own cost a memorial that every man should remember his own death, that is to say the Dawnse of Powlys, the which cost XVIII£. God have mercy on his sowle, Amen." What this *Dance of Paul's* really was has been matter for conjecture, Mr. Rogers claiming it to be a book, but from the character of after references to it, we infer that it was a large picture or piece of tapestry of the *Dance of Death* school of religious art. This appears to have been suspended and unrolled twice a year, and the pilgrim's progress through the dark valley was illustrated by tragic delineation of the spirit bathing in fiery floods; or peradventure as a good doer, winged to eternal rest by flights of angels. The fraternity were, however, rich in illuminated books. One of these, a *Primer*, was given by the same worthy to whom they were indebted for the *Dance of Paul's*. For security the book was kept within a grating under St. Christopher's foot,

whose image was carved in the rood loft. Notwithstanding the strict watch of this (literally) great saint, the book was stolen, the robbers proving to be some pilgrims who had visited the Church previously to their setting out to the shrine of St. James, in Spain, Bristol being a favourite port for the embarkation of these pious rovers. Mr. Rogers gives a picturesque story of the consternation of the brethren at the discovery of their loss and of their painful wandering in search of the precious manuscript. We do not find any authority, except what is conjectural, for his circumstantial and graphic narration. The Primer was, however, found at Compostella, and brought back. Once more it was enclosed within a new grating, but was again stolen and never recovered.

The book we have spoken of was written by the hand of Sir Maurice Hardwicke, who was vicar in 1455, "for to put in the names of the good doers and the names of the wardens of the Church, and what good they did in their days, that they may yearly be prayed for."

This interesting library was destroyed by fire in 1466 through the carelessness of a drunken point-maker, two adjoining houses, against the steeple of the Church, being at the same time burnt down. It may be of interest to note that William Rowley, a name made famous by Chatterton, was one of the wardens that year. He died in 1488.

Another important document that escaped destruction was the *Mayor's Kalendar*, the production of which might be accepted as a typical example of the office of the brotherhood. It is now preserved in the Council Chamber, directly opposite the library side of the Church. This Kalendar has been edited by Miss Toulmin Smith, for the Camden Society. As a specimen of the contents we extract a short passage bearing upon the ceremonial visit of the Mayor and Council to the Church on the feast of All Saints. On that day, after dinner, they were to assemble at the Tolsey, "with many other gentils and worshipfull comoners, such as appereth there at that tyme, and fro thens to go in to All Hallowen Church, there to offre, and fro thens to walke in fere unto the Maire's place, there to have their ffyres and their drynkyns with spiced cake-brede, and sondry wynes, the cuppes merily serving about the hous; and then fro thens every man departing unto his parish Church to evensong." (Page 79).

Of quite distinct origin from the semi-monastic free library of the Kalendaries, was a library established for the free use of the people in Bristol, in the year 1613, on the site of the present Central Free Library in King-street. The history of this the first English Protestant Free Library has been diligently traced by Mr. Charles Tovey, in a work entitled "The Bristol City Library ; its Founders and Benefactors," published in 1853. Mr. Tovey was then a member of the Town Council, and he is happily still amongst us, taking unabated interest in the literary manifestations of the place.

At a meeting of the Corporation of Bristol on the 6th Dec. 1613, it was agreed "that if Mr. Roberte Redwoode will give his Lodge adjoyninge to the Town Hall neere the marsh of Bristol to the Mayor and commonalty to be converted to a Librayre, or place to put bookes for the furtherance of learninge, then the same shall be thankfully accepted, and that then there shall be a dore made through the wall there on such sorte as shall be thought conveniente by the surveyors of the landes of the cytie, and Mr. John Hopkins, Alderman, Mr. Robert Aldworth, late Mayor, and Hierome Ham, Town Clerke, to passe from thence into the marsh there, and that such bookes as shall be given to the cytie by the reverende father in God the Lord Archbishop of Yorke, or any other well disposed person for the furnishinge of a library shall be thankfully accepted and preserved in the place aforesayed."

Of Robert Redwood, who founded a free library in Bristol forty years before Chetham's in Manchester, there is no biography. He was a private gentleman, residing occasionally at Bristol, and at his country house at Congresbury, and dying in 1630 was buried at St. Werburgh's church. He ordained that the Vicar of St. Leonard s, in whose parish he resided when in Bristol, should be librarian, "if a graduate in the universitie, and his religion answerable thereto, to be approved by the mayor and aldermen." The Rev Richard Williams, Vicar of that church, seems to have been qualified for the post, for when the library was established in 1615 he was appointed by the Corporation at a salary of 40s. a year. The following is the entry in the Mayor's Register Book, fol. 70. "This year was erected and builded the Library in the marsh, Doctor Toby Mathews, and Robert Redwood, was the founders thereof, and Richard Williams, Vicar of St. Leonard's was the first master or keeper thereof." Of the names or the number of the books contained in the original collection we cannot at this time be certain, but in 1622 they were added to as follows:—"Paid Mr. Brown for 117 books for the provision of the Library £14. 10s. 3d."—2s. 6d. each on the average. A few years later another important accession to the Library takes place, Tobias Matthew, who had himself found the benefit of learning, in having through its means been elevated from a draper's stool on old Bristol Bridge: in one of the quaint over-hanging houses which in old time thereon stood he was born; to the throne of York Minster, left to his native place many of his books, that like himself, merchants and shopkeepers might not confine their studies to their ledgers and account books. Some of the books he presented are still to be identified by his handwriting upon the title page. One of these works is the *Ecclesiastica Historia* published in 1562, in which is inscribed

Tobias Eboracum. Vita Mihi
Christus, Mors Lucrum

In consequence of the increasing number of books an extension of the buildings became necessary, and in 1634 the Common Council ordered that "out of a love for learning, and desire to preserve the books" £25. should be expended; which amount was afterwards increased to £35.

Another item of expenditure appears singular for the period in which it occurs. That at so advanced a date as A.D. 1640 it should be necessary to fetter books, is what we should hardly expect to find; but there is an entry to this effect: "1640.—Paid Thomas Jackson, ironmonger, for 15 doz. and a half of book chains for the Library, £3. 17s. 6d." Books, however, were secured in this way to a much later period than is ordinarily assumed; and Mr. J. Willis Clark, of Cambridge, has satisfactorily established, in his "Architectural History of the Colleges of Cambridge," that the practice of thus confining volumes did not cease until the end of the last century.

We here, for a moment, break off from the subject of Redwood's Library in King-street, to speak of a proposal to establish during the Protectorate another Free Library in the centre of the city. Mr. Tovey (page 13) cites a document (preserved, we presume, among the city archives), in the following words: "1st April, 1657. Whereas there is a very small church and parish situated in the centre of the city, called St. Ewen's, or St. Advoen's, consisting but of twenty and two families, and in distance from two other churches but the breadth of a street, there not being any maintenance for a preaching minister belonging thereunto, and may with conveniency be united to another parish: and whereas *there is a great want of a Library within the city for public use* and

propagation of learning, it is ordered that Mr. Aldworth, now Burgess in Parliament, be desired to use his best endeavours in Parliament, that the said church, with the appurtenances, may be given to the Mayor and commonalty of this city, to be employed to that use or other public uses." Mr. Tovey correctly adds that "this never took effect, but he is evidently unaware that the Act for the required conversion was really passed in the same year (1656). This we are enabled to point out by the kind information of Colonel Bramble, who possesses a copy of the Act in question, and we quote it as being the first instance of an enactment of Parliament for instituting a public free library: "And whereas theare is a certain church within the said cytty called by the name of St. Owins, otherwise Audoen's, which for the smalness of it and little use made theareoff, may be conveniently united to the parish church of All Sts.," (the church of the Kalendars, and situate opposite St. Ewen's, in the same street), "being very fitt and near theareunto. And the said parish church of St. Owinge being very convenient to be converted into a common and public Library for the use of the said cytty, it shall be lawful, &c." "Be it also enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall and may be lawfull to and for the person and persons named and appoynted to make the sd. assynments by virtue of this and the said Act, according to the powers thearein lymitted, to take order that the same ch. of St. Ewin's be converted and ymployed to and for a public Library within the sd. cytty." St. Ewin's Church was consolidated in 1787 with Christ Church and then taken down, the present Council House occupying its site.

Until the year 1690 the records of the City Library are so scanty as to indicate its continued existence only by the entries of the princely payment of the appointed ten shillings a quarter to the librarian. This heavy impost on the city finally dropped, it being ordered in 1691 that on the death of the librarian then in office, Mr. Penwarne, "the salary do cease." Further, it was agreed that the surveyors do view the house and set "apart a convenient place of the same for a library to keep the books in, and that the rest of the house be let for a tenement, if they think fit, and report to the house."

Hitherto the library appears to have been without a catalogue of its contents, the inattention to so important an aid to the student, and guard to the security of the books, being in serious contrast with the carefulness of the old Kalendaries in this respect. At length "it was carried that a catalogue should be made," and "that the Mayor, Alderman, Sheriffs, and Chamberlain should go, once a year, to view the same, and see that the books are preserved." When they ceased to go, or whether the conscript fathers went at all, is not recorded. How far the citizens themselves visited the library is uncertain, but so far as evidence can be obtained of its practical value it was the one thing not needful in the town, and the people were supremely indifferent to its existence. The building fell into a ruinous state, the books were damaged, and in danger of being spoiled through neglect, when in 1725 a petition from the Rev. Robert Clarke, vicar of St. Leonard's and librarian, was read to the Council with a view to draw their attention to the condition of the only literary institution in the city. After many years' consideration the Council determined to rebuild the library, and in 1740 the present building was erected, but without the wing. The expense to the city was £1301 8s. 1d. The structure is of no great architectural pretensions. It is two storeys in height with a pedimental head, two stages of square headed windows and a central doorway, being in fact an average example of a quiet country mansion of the

period. The ground floor is broken up into four small apartments, and a substantial staircase to the principal or lending library which is furnished with a double series of old oak bookcases projecting from the blank spaces between each window, north and south, a succession of bays or separate bookrooms being thus formed. The chimney piece is the chief feature, a magnificent carved oak composition of flowers, foliage and birds by Grinling Gibbons, who had the faculty of giving to wood the finished art treatment of line engraving, if two such dissimilar species of art may be compared together. The birds represented are woodcocks and the traditional pun of their being real woodcocks is now worn out. Gibbons died in 1721, and his collection of carved work was sold by auction. Amongst these were two chimney pieces of his own work which severally fetched £100 and £120. One of these is believed to have been purchased by Mr. Michael Beacher, who was sheriff of Bristol in 1739 and who presented it to the library. At any rate he is stated to have bought a work of the kind at an auction and to have placed it where it now stands, though there is a little vagueness as to particulars.

With the death of the Rev. Thomas Redding, in 1768, the rule for electing a librarian from the clergy of one of the city parishes was broken through, and Mr. Benjamin Donn, a mathematician of some note, was elected to the place. In keeping with his taste for the binomial theorem and the books of Euclid, he conceived the idea of converting the establishment into a mathematical academy, but the Corporation did not join in his enthusiasm, and students were not therefore invited.

A change, however, of almost as considerable a character in the constitution of the Library, afterwards really took place. It may be assumed that hitherto the citizens had been so careless of the advantage of having right of free access to Bellarmine and Duns Scotus, that some scheming intellects of their fellows thought there might be no loud outcry were such privileges covertly withdrawn. Accordingly an advertisement appeared in the local papers of December 2nd, 1772, as follows:—

"It being proposed by some gentlemen of this city to form a Society, in order to collect a Library for the use of the subscribers, any friends to literature, who are willing to concur in such a scheme, are desired to attend at the Bush Tavern, on Tuesday, the 15th, at Six o'clock in the evening, to consider of a plan for the purpose."

The project was so far agreed upon by its leaders that it was agreed to create a subscription library, and that the Corporation should be requested to grant the use of the Library House, in King Street, for shelving the books to be acquired. They further prayed for the use of the books already "therein deposited, at present uselessly deposited, for want of the superintendence a public library stands in need of, and which can only be secured by a literary establishment." Finally, they remark: "To put it in the power of the citizens of Bristol to have access to a well-chosen Library, at an easy annual expense, is the object of the Society, &c."

There was, however, no actual fusion of the newly-collected library of the Society with the old library of the citizens. In the City Council minutes of 1773, August 7th, it was agreed "to make rules and orders for the government of the libraries at the Library House in King Street, in this city, and to report their opinion thereon to the next or any subsequent meeting." Among the ordinations were certain rules for the guidance of the librarian:—He was to reside in the Library House; attend at the Library Room from ten in the morning till one on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and from six in the evening till nine on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays; keep a catalogue

of the books of the City Library distinct from that of the new Library Society; to suffer no one to take any of the city books out of the Library without leave obtained in writing from a stated authority; see to its due return, and report if damaged; stamp the city books with a distinct stamp; keep a fire in the Library-room in the winter; for that and for other necessaries to be allowed for, over and above his salary of forty shillings per year. That these Rules be fixed up in some conspicuous part of the Library. On the 8th of December, 1773, it was agreed in Council that the librarian's salary should be advanced to ten guineas a year.

Whatever neglect there may have been on the part of the citizens of their right of free access to the books of the earlier or City Library, it is evident that the newer collection of "Society" books soon became useful to literary men of the neighbourhood. In truth we have only to look at the catalogue of old tomes appended to Mr. Charles Tovey's work, to dismiss our surprise at not finding the room thronged with eager searchers for knowledge, or with recreative readers. Such works as Cardinal Ximenes' *Biblia Sacra Polyglotta* or Fenelon's *Œuvres Spirituelles*, even though relieved with Atterbury's *Sermons* and the *Whole Duty of Man*, were hardly the volumes welcome to the weary merchant and shopkeeper after their day's employment, and the Library Society not unwisely began to fill their shelves with a diversity of books more suitable to modern wants. Metaphysics, Theology, and Topography received special attention, and concerning a work in the first of these departments there is an amusing incident in relation to a borrower who was beginning to prove one of the choicest intellects of his age, S. T. Coleridge:—

"In consequence of a note," says Joseph Cottle[1], "I called at the Bristol Library, where I found Mr. George Catcott, the sub-librarian, much excited. 'See,' said he, immediately I entered the room, 'here is a letter I have just received from Mr. Coleridge. Pray look at it.' I read it. 'Do you mean to give the letter to me with its ponderous contents?' I said. 'Oh, you take it,' he replied. This gift enables me to lay the letter in question before the reader. Mr. George Catcott, though of singular manners was a person of worth. He was the patron of Chatterton, and chiefly through his efforts the poems of *Rowley* were preserved.

"Stowey, May, 1797.

"Mr. Catcott,—I beg your acceptance of all the enclosed letters. You must not think lightly of the present, as they cost me, who am a very poor man, five shillings.

"With respect to the *Bruck. Hist. Crit.*, although by accident they were registered on the 23rd of March, yet they were not removed from the library for a fortnight after; and when I received your first letter, I had had the books just three weeks. Our learned and ingenious committee may read through two quartos, that is, one thousand and four hundred pages of close printed Latin and Greek, in three weeks, for aught I know to the contrary. I pretend to no such intenseness of application, or rapidity of genius.

"I must beg you to inform me by Mr. Cottle what length of time is allowed by the rules and customs of our institution for each book. Whether their contents, as well as their size are consulted, in apportioning the time, or whether, customarily, any time at all is apportioned, except when the committee, in individual cases, choose to deem it proper.

I subscribe to your library, Mr. Catcott, not to read novels, or books of quite ready and easy digestion, but to get books which I cannot get elsewhere—books of massy knowledge—and as I have few books of my own, I read with a common-place book, so that if be not allowed a longer period of time for the perusal of such books, I must contrive to get rid of my subscription, which would be a thing perfectly useless, except so far as it gives me an opportunity of reading your little expensive notes and letters.—Yours in Christian Fellowship,

S. T. COLERIDGE."

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[1] Cottle's *Reminiscences*, page 118.

The binding of the first volume of Brucker shows no inconsiderable amount of wear, so, as it is hardly probable that there has been any borrower of the work since Coleridge, we may assume that he was allowed to retain it beyond the limited period he complained of.

If other eminent names be sought for amongst early subscribers to the library, the register will supply the autographs of Humphrey Davy, Walter Savage Landor, and Robert Southey. It should be remembered that Coleridge and Southey, a few months before the above letter was written from Stowey, were hoping soon to be wafted from Bristol by favoring gales to the remote banks of the Susquehannah, in order there to inaugurate their philanthropic scheme of Pantisocracy, which was to be the beginning of a happier destiny for the human race; a Utopia that failed before its birth. The house may yet be seen (48, College Green) where these distinguished scions of letters were lodging at the time they were considering their mighty plan of bettering a bad old world, but Coleridge soon after took up his abode with his bride on the banks of the Severn, at Clevedon, instead of on the shores of the Susquehannah, and Southey also married.

The Library Chronicle.

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is issued on the 15th of the month, and communications, books for review, etc., intended for the forthcoming number should be addressed, not later than the 10th of the month, to the Hon. Editor,* ERNEST C. THOMAS, *care of Messrs. J. Davy & Sons, 137, Long Acre, W.C.*

The attention of librarians and library committees, of publishers and booksellers, is called to the advantages of the CHRONICLE *(which represents at least 300 libraries) as an advertising medium. Advertisements of Library Vacancies, and of Books Wanted, or Duplicates for Sale or Exchange by Libraries are inserted at low rates.*

Members of the Library Association whose subscription for the current year has been paid are entitled to receive the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association cannot be responsible for the views expressed by the contributors to the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association.

The November Monthly Meeting of the Association will be held at Gray's Inn Library on Friday, November 6th, at 7.30 p.m., when a Paper will be read by the Hon. Secretary on "The Bibliography of Domesday Book."

The Hon. Secretary will be glad to receive offers of Papers to be read at the Monthly Meetings, 1886-7.

Library Notes and News.

BOLTON.—The Public Free Library Committee have decided to purchase the building occupied as the Reference and Subscription Libraries and News Room for £2,500. The Pike's Lane Lending Library will be completed and opened some time next year.

DOUGLAS, ISLE OF MAN.—The first Free Public Library in the Isle of Man was opened on Saturday, October 2nd, at Douglas. It contains 3,000 volumes, and has a reading room attached. In the *Isle of Man Times* of October 9, the librarian (Mr. J. de Maine Brown), reports the result of the first week's work.

EDINBURGH.—At a large meeting of Edinburgh citizens, held October 1st, the Lord Provost presiding, resolutions were adopted thanking Mr. Andrew Carnegie for his offer of £50,000 to the city towards the establishment of a Free Public Library; pledging those present to do their utmost to secure the adoption of the Public Libraries Acts, which Mr. Carnegie has made a condition of his gift; and agreeing to requisition the Lord Provost to call the public meeting which the Act enjoins. Among the speakers were Mr. John Harrison, Mr. Geo. Mackay, Mr. J. B. Balfour, Q.C., and Prof. Masson.

FOLKESTONE.—The Mayor of Folkestone announced on October 1st that he had received a bequest of £1,000 from the late Miss Hall towards the erection of a Free Library in that town.

GOSPORT.—At a meeting of ratepayers held on September 22, to consider the desirability of adopting the Libraries Acts for the parish of Alverstoke, when a resolution in favour of adopting them was carried by a large majority.

LONDON: GUILDHALL LIBRARY.—On September 30, at a meeting of the Common Council, Mr. Squire, Chairman of the Library Committee, in answer to a question, stated that the new library catalogue would be completed by April or May next. Its progress has been delayed by the destruction of 300 pages of type in the recent fire at Messrs. Blades' offices.

MANCHESTER.—A new Art Museum at Ancoats was opened by Mr. Oliver Heywood on October 7th. The Museum will be open free up to 10 p.m. on week-days, and on Sunday afternoons. It is proposed to give music twice a week, and occasional lectures.

NOTTINGHAM.—To supply the requirements of the St. Ann's district, a new building has been erected for the purposes of a Free Public Reading Room. A room is being temporarily used in Bullivant Street, which will be closed about the middle of October, when the new room will be opened. The new building is a neat brick structure. The reading room is large and lofty, is well supplied with fresh air, is well ventilated and lighted, and is attractive in appearance.—A man was recently sent to prison for a month for assaulting the attendant at the Lenton Free Public Reading Room.

STRATFORD-ON-AVON.—Mr. F. Hawley is the new librarian and curator of the Shakspere Memorial, Stratford-upon-Avon. Mr. Hawley is engaged in forming a committee to ask for subscriptions of books and donations of books for the library.

A pleasantly written account of our annual meeting appeared in the *Cheltenham Examiner*, signed P.

Mr. J. T. Swallow sends us a copy of letters which he has addressed to the Committee of the Salford Free Library and to the press, urging that the Revised Version should be placed on the Free Library tables.

A correspondent of *United Ireland*, who formed one of the deputation to Mr. Gladstone the other day, describes his books. "Mr. Gladstone's library numbers about 15,000 volumes. I was struck with the number of works on theology, but many members of Mrs. Gladstone's family were theological scholars, while Mr. Gladstone's own controversial tastes are well known. Large departments are devoted to Dante, Shakspeare, and, of course, Homer. . . . While we were here he came into the room himself. 'Ah! you are looking at my books,' he said. 'If there is one thing I am vainer than another about, it is my plan for stacking books. I can get more books into a given space than any man I know.'"

The following letter has appeared in the *Kirkaldy Advertiser*:—"SIR,—My tooth ha'e just been watering sin' ever I heard o' Andrew Carnegie's donation, £50,000 to Edinburgh for a Free Library. Man, it would be graun' if Andrew wad just sen' a pairt o't ower here. I dinna ken a place 'at has mair need o't, and am sure plenty working men wud thank him for't. I was through in Dunfermline last week. Man, yon's a palace, and sic fine rooms, and sic a graund lot o' books; it did ma heart gude to see, and I said to myself, oh, that we had an Andrew Carnegie in Kirkcaldy. A chiel wha has the cash, and the wull to pairt wi't.—SANDY M'NAB."

The late Mr. Samuel J. Tilden has left between four and five million dollars for carrying on the work of free libraries in America. After deducting the expense of establishing free public libraries in New Lebanon and Yonkers, the rest of the money will, it is said, be devoted to founding a new public library in New York.

The following is a list of Members who attended the Annual Meeting. The Hon. Sec. will be glad to receive any corrections:—T. J. Agar, W. Archer, C. Atchley, W. E. A. Axon, J. Ballinger, J. Bailey, J. B. Bailey, C. Baxter, W. E. Baxter, G. Bell, A. J. Birch, F. Boase, G. C. Boase, Dr. Bond, J. W. Bone, T. Bonner, J. R. Boosé, E. M. Borrajo, R. Bowes, F. Braby, J. P. Briscoe, W. S. Brough, J. D. Buckland, G. Bullen, F. J. Burgoyne, G. L. Campbell, J. J. Charnock, J. Chatto, C. Chivers, Chancellor Christie, A. C. Clarke, J. T. Clarke, P. C. Cleasby, W. H. Congreve, A. Cotgreave, P. Cowell, J. Ashton Cross, H. T. Cox, J. Dangerfield, C. Day, C. T. Davis, R. K. Dent, D. Dickinson, L. Dillon, Prof. R. K. Douglas, W. R. Douthwaite, W. Downing, G. Easter, R. S. Faber, H. T. Folkard, A. J. Frost, J. Frowde, Dr. Garnett, T. J. George, H. M. Gilbert, J. Gilburt, W. T. Glover, E. J. Gouly, W. H. Greenhough, H. Grevel, F. Grut, R. Halliwell, T. W. Hand, W. Harris, R. Harrison, R. Haughton, G. F. Hilcken, C. Hindley, R. G. Hobbes, J. E. Hodgson, Rev. J. C. Hudson, R. Hudson, E. Wyndham Hulme, G. R. Humphery, A. Jaraulde, R. Jepson, T. D. A. Jewers, G. J. Johnson, O. Johnson, W. Jones, A. Josephs, J. Justen, G. G. Killingley, J. W. Knapman, T. G. Law, E. Lawrence, W. J. Leighton, J. E. Liddiard, Alderman Lupton, J. Y. W. MacAlister, W. H. Martin, T. Mason, E. R. N. Mathews, W. May, T. J. de Mazzinghi, Rev. W. H. Milman, A. Milner, W. W. Morrell, J. D. Mullins, E. Neville, A. A. Newman, T. W. Newton, F. Pacy, G. Parr, J. Pink, F. W. Pixley, J. Plant, Prof. F. Pollock, J. T. Presley, R. B. Prosser, J. T. Radford, A. B. Railton, Harry Rawson, T. B. Reed, H. C. Richards, J. J. Riley, A. W. Robertson, Sir A. K. Rollit, C. E. Scarse, E. S. Schuckburgh, Dr. W. Sparrow Simpson, R. F. Sketchley, Dr. Seligmann, T. W. Shore, W. B. Slater, A. Smith, J. Southward, E. G. Spiers, Miss Stamp, W. Sterzel, H. N. Stevens, J. H. Stone, C. W. Sutton, H. R. Tedder, Carl. A. Thimm, E. C. Thomas, E. M. Thompson, Sam. Timmins, E. Tonks, Rev. Dr. Tyler, J. K. Waite, W. C. Walcott, E. Walford, D. Watson, J. R. Welch, W. H. Wesley, J. Wheldon, J. V. Whitaker, J. Whittall, T. Woodrow, B. B. Woodward, W. H. K. Wright, J. Yates, and J. W. Zaehnsdorf.

Library Catalogues and Reports.

List of 210 books for the Blind, in the Moon and in the Braille systems, in the Central Free Public Lending Library, South Sherwood Street, Nottingham. Royal 8vo, pp. 4 and wrapper.

The above is in two divisions. The titles are arranged in each section under subject headings. The list will be useful in the formation of libraries for the blind.

Cambridge Public Free Library . . . Thirty-first Annual Report. 1885-1886. 8vo, pp. 13.

The central libraries and the branch library contain 31,435 volumes, of which 1,548 were added during the year; 257 volumes were withdrawn, and 756 rebound. The total issues were 88,822 volumes, being a decrease on the previous year's issues. During one week in December the reading room was attended by 19003 persons, but this was an exceptional week. At the close of the year there were 2,436 borrowers on the books. The chairman (Mr. H. T. Hall) again made a number of valuable gifts. The year's receipts from all sources realized £826, and the expenditure £806.

[Cambridge University Library]. Report of the Library Syndicate. [Dated June 2 1886]. 4to, pp. 11.

The Syndicate begin their thirty-second annual report by referring to the "irreparable loss" sustained in the death of Mr. Henry Bradshaw. They press upon the Senate the urgent need of further accommodation for the library. The number of titles printed for the general catalogue during 1885 was 12,859. The number of books borrowed from the library was 29,050 as compared with 26,198 in 1884. The number of non-members of the University admitted to the library was 85. Among the donations were 129 early service books and 18 books printed in the 15th century presented by Mr. Bradshaw and his executors.

City and County of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Fifth Report of the Public Libraries Committee, 1884-86. 8vo, pp. 30.

This report covers over a year and a half. A fire took place in the Reference Library, Nov. 24, 1884, through the overheating of a sunlight flue. The room was closed for twenty-one weeks in consequence. The daily average issue in the "Lending and Juvenile Libraries" was 823, being an increase of 21 over the preceding year. Since the opening (Sep. 1880) only 13 vols. were lost. There are now 8,532 borrowers' cards in use. In future borrowers' cards will only be available for a year, instead of five years as before. The Lending Libraries were closed for two months during the work of restoration after the fire. Every volume was accounted for at stocktaking. The Lending Library now contains 28,196 volumes, of which 1,022 were obtained during the year and a half covered by the report; 483 worn-out books were replaced. Newcastle has the lowest percentage of issues in prose fiction compared with twelve other libraries. From the Juvenile Library 46,168 volumes were issued. Only one volume has been lost out of the 185,542 volumes issued since 1880. There are 1,855 volumes in this department. There were 3,527 specifications of patents issued in eighteen months. The daily average attendance in the news room was 2,165. The average Sunday attendance was 649. Three board schools are utilized as news rooms in the evenings, the daily average attendance in all being 144. In consequence of the limited attendance these rooms were closed during the summer, and on December 19, 1885, were closed altogether. The Reference Library issues averaged 145 volumes. Only 13 of the volumes damaged or destroyed at the fire require to be replaced. Since the issue of the previous report 1,430 volumes were added, of which 539 were presented. The total stock in the Reference Library is now 28,009 volumes, and the total stock in all the libraries 56,205. A comparative table shows Newcastle as the eighth in population and in stock, seventh in the number of borrowers' cards in stock, and the second in turnover. The 1d. rate realised £2,095.

Watford Public Library and College of Science, Art, Music and Literature. Handbook, Catalogues and Reports. 8vo, pp. viii. [3] 157, cloth.

A compact guide book to the various departments of this institution, which presents some features of special interest. It is estimated that fully 1,000 people use the institution. The Library has 8,397 volumes, a catalogue of which forms part of the present volume. We notice that not only is there a private reading room with a subscription of 10s. a year, but that borrowers have to pay 4d. a month or 3s. a year. The number of volumes used in the year ending July 31 was 11,602. The rate produced £241; the total income was £492 1s. 10d., and the year closed with a balance in hand of £47 5s. 3d. The programmes of the Educational Department are included in the volume.

Record of Bibliography and Library Literature.

Soc. Rosicr. in Anglia. Early Versions of the Old and New Testament, examined by the York College, November 17th, 1886. Selected from the Library of J. R. Dore, P.Z., K.T., Huddersfield. With Bibliographical notes. Huddersfield: 8vo, pp. 16.

This interesting list of 100 bibles from the collection of the well-known *Bibelkenner*, extending from Tyndale's version to that of Douai, with a selection of bibles in foreign languages.

Richard Copley Christie. Étienne Dolet le martyr de la rénaissance sa vie et sa mort; ouvrage traduit de l'anglais sous la direction de l'auteur par Casimir Stryienski, professeur agrégé de l'Université. Paris: Librairie Fischbacher, 1886. la. 8vo, pp. xxii. 577.

It was pretty certain that Chancellor Christie's excellent work would be translated into French, and the period which has elapsed since the publication of the original in 1880 has enabled the author to make such additional researches and discoveries, that the present work is described in the preface as in reality a new and revised edition. For this reason, and also because of the very handsome form in which it appears, this French version should find a place beside its predecessor, even on the shelves of English libraries. The new additions include fresh information as to Dolet's domestic and business relationships, interesting references to Dolet by Henri Estienne, and a long note on Dolet's religious opinions, in reply to M. Douen's criticism. Chancellor Christie has also increased by *fifteen* the number of Dolet's books which he has personally examined, of which *three* are now described for the first time, and has removed two books from the original list as not being really printed by him.

Die Stadtbibliothek in Köln, ihre Organisation und Verwaltung. Beiträge zu ihrer Geschichte. Von Adolph Keysser. Koln: DuMont-Schauberg. 8vo, pp. viii. 109. M. 4.

We have already had occasion to refer to the new departure made by the town library of Cologne. The present is the first in a series of intended publications in connexion with the library. The two earlier sections deal with the history of the library from 1602 to 1877; the third section, forming the great bulk of the work, relates its recent development and supplies a full account of its building, its organisation and administration, together with its cataloguing rules and instructions for the binder.

The number of printing societies seems to be increasing. The new Scottish History Society, of which our colleague Mr. T. G. Law is Honorary Secretary, has filled its list of members. It is also proposed to found a new club at Aberdeen consisting of 300 members to continue the work of the Spalding Club. Communications should be sent to Mr. C. Elphinstone Dalrymple, 13, Union Terrace, Aberdeen.

Mr. Tuer thinks he has reason to be dissatisfied with the legal right of the British Museum to demand a copy of any new book in the most expensive form. He has adopted an odd method of "getting even" with the Museum by printing a high-priced edition of his new book "Follies and Fashions of our Grandfathers" on brown paper. There will be three copies in this form—"The first copy for the British Museum, the second for himself to take home and chuckle over when out of sorts, and the third for anyone who likes to pay for it."

It is a long time since we have noticed a more amusing blunder than that made by Miss Jane Lee, in a review of the first volume of Jules Quicherat's *Mélanges* in the *Academy* of September 25. This learned lady after saying that "the task of teaching *la diplomatique française* was entrusted to him," adds that "it is curious to think of Quicherat as a lecturer on *diplomacy* (*sic*). He *discharged the duties of this new office* most conscientiously, but one can hardly imagine that the work was congenial to him." The correction is obvious: for *diplomacy* read *diplomatics*. Did Miss Lee never hear of Mabillon *De re diplomatica*; and if not how is it that she undertakes to review the work of a scholar, the greater part of whose life was devoted to the *Res diplomatica*? And then what are we to think of the opinion expressed in the words we have put in italics as to the way in which he lectured on the subject of diplomacy?

We notice in *Book-Lore* for October a delicious piece of latinity in "the maxim 'Nisi nil mortuum de bonis.'" That the inventor of so beautiful a maxim should go on to speak of "Matthew Arnold's *Light of Asia*" is characteristic of a mind that thinks accuracy and liveliness (*i.q.* nil mortuum?) to be incompatible qualities.

In the first volume of the *Archiv für Litteratur-und Kirchengeschichte des Mittelalters*, F. Ehrle has an article on the Treasury, the Library and the Archives of the Popes in the fourteenth century.

In vol. xxix of the *Archivio Veneto* is an article by B. Cecchetti on documents relating to the exemption of books from duty at Venice in 1433 and to block-printing from 1447 onwards.

In the *Bibliothèque de l'École des Chartes* (vol. xlvii) C. Kohler prints an Inventory of the Library of St. Gildas in Berry, dating from the eleventh century.

In the *Academy* for October 2nd, the Rev. H. F. Tozer has some notes on the Library of the Monastery at Patmos.

In *Funny Folks* for October 9th there is a fancy portrait of the "Library Pest" in the shape of "the amateur annotator."

In the *Academy* of August 21 is a long and sympathetic notice of Sir Samuel Ferguson, Deputy-Keeper of the Records in Ireland and President of the Royal Irish Academy, who died on August 9th, at the age of 76. Our members will not have forgotten the hospitality shown to the Association by Sir Samuel and Lady Ferguson on our visit to Dublin.

Correspondence.

Books for the Blind.

Owing to the non-delivery of a parcel at the proper time I was unable to hand round the Hall, after reading my paper, copies of the Nottingham collection of books for the blind together with priced lists of books in Dr. Moon's, and the Braille system. I shall be glad to forward copies to my brother librarians who desire to have them.

Government Publications.

I have made application to the Foreign Secretary for the gift of the Consular Report as published, but my request was not acceded to on the score of expense. The cost of working off an extra hundred and fifty copies to supply the free libraries of the United Kingdom would be trifling, whilst the cost of transmission by post would be nothing.

J. Potter Briscoe, Nottingham,

Practical Topics.

Free Public Reference Library, University College, Nottingham.

Allow me to suggest that the Council of the Library Association should select some practical topics for discussion in the pages of our journal, and invite the opinions of librarians thereon. I would suggest such topics as "Should pamphlets be bound? If so, how should they be grouped? If not, what means should be taken for their preservation?" "Should a uniform series of books when relating to several widely different classes of literature be kept together on the shelves or not?" "Co-operative Cataloguing: lists to be invited of those books, the contents of which are fully and accurately set out in the sender's own catalogue." This last would be a great saving of time to librarians in preventing the labour of writing out contents of important books, when the work has been previously well done by a brother librarian.

John J. Ogle.

October 13th, 1886.

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The Library Chronicle.

LIBRARIES OF PENZANCE.[1]

By Rev. W. S. Lach-Szyrma, Vicar of Newlyn, S. Peter.

A common symptom of a serious weakness is a coldness and numbness in the extremities, which are warm when the heart is vigorous and the body is healthy. This law applies to other matters beside the human body. In institutions when they are feeble in the extremity it is a bad sign, and in nations when the culture is confined to the metropolis and a few centres, and the intellectual life is numbed in the distant parts of the state, it is a sign, either that the culture is exotic, or has become effete. Russia is an example of the former. The civilization of the empire (such as it is) is mainly confined to the capital, and leaves the provincial towns in dull atrophy. The culture of the ancient Byzantine Empire might be taken as an example of the second case.

How about England then? How about our extremities? Is there intellectual life in the Western end of the island, in the far West itself, *i.e.*, the Land's End district? I shall endeavour to make a statement of facts from which you will be able to form your conclusions as to how far literary and intellectual life is spreading in the Land's End district, and as to how far books may be found there and are prized.

In speaking of intellectual life, of course I know that books are not the only form of it, and if this were not a Library Congress, I might mention a few forms of intellectual movement among us—*e.g.*, our Penzance Natural History and Antiquarian Society, which meets monthly in the winter, and gives its attention mainly to encouraging original research on local subjects either historical, archæological or natural, the reports of which you may sometimes see in metropolitan papers; or our Royal Geological Society with its fine museum, which also does a good work in its speciality. But the point before us is about books, and of books I have to speak.

The chief public library in Penzance is that called par excellence the Penzance Library. Of it I must speak at length.

It is at present located in the public buildings in the same group as St. John's Hall, but it is hoped soon to be moved to a special building for itself in the Morrab Road, as no insurance would cover the risk of fire to books of considerable value and rarity. It will, it is hoped, be placed in its own building, in a place of perfect safety.

[1] Read at the Plymouth Meeting of the Association, 1885.

The history of this library is interesting. Its foundations were practically laid towards the end of the last century, at the time when the intellectual movement may be said to have begun in Penzance.

The Penzance public library in its present form was established in 1818. It has thus had nearly 70 years existence, not a long time in the existence of a library, but still one sufficiently long to make it a senior in age to many of the leading provincial libraries of England.

I need hardly remind you that libraries grow sometimes rapidly, sometimes slowly. When there is a large command of funds, the growth of a library may be very rapid. Indeed I doubt not that most of us might well suppose that if we had ample funds at our disposal, say £100,000, we could provide any town or institution with a first class library. And so most of us who have a good knowledge of books undoubtedly could do. But the Penzance library has never been rich, and the librarians have never had really large funds at their disposal. It has mostly grown by presents from liberal donors, who have thought the library well conducted, and have in their liberality preferred to bestow their literary treasures on a provincial library in a watering place, to keeping the books on their own shelves, or casting them into the vast oceans of our national libraries.

The Penzance library contains 16,000 volumes, besides a considerable number of pamphlets.

It may be divided into:—

(*a.*) The Dawson Collection.
(*b.*) The Halliwell Collection.
(*c.*) The Carne Bequest.
(*d.*) The Topological or Cornish Department, to my mind one of its most valuable features.
(*e.*) The General Library.

(*a.*) *The Dawson Collection* was collected by Mr. T. Dawson, and presented to Penzance. It contains:—MSS., a series of medical treatises, illuminated, of the 14th century, 7 treatises in all. Twenty-three volumes of collections of autographs, pictures and documents relating to the families of the peers of England. This might be useful for consultation by genealogists and historians; some parts of the collection are quite unique. Ten volumes folio of collection of plates, woodcuts and contemporary illustrations of events connected with the life of Napoleon I. This is of great historical interest and worthy of consultation. It is I believe one of the best private collections of historic records of this period in England and is worth consultation. The value of the collection cannot well be estimated. It cost the collector, Mr. Dawson, I believe over £3,000. These works are kept in a glass case, and were arranged with great ability in their present form by Dr. Millet of Penzance.

(*b.*) *The Halliwell Collection* of above 1000 volumes, presented by the famous bibliophil, Mr. Halliwell Phillipps. They are kept by themselves in a special department, and have their own catalogue. This is mainly dramatic or antiquarian. It includes several very rare plays of the Restoration Period, also the proceedings of the Shakespeare Society, and most of the commentaries on Shakespeare. This collection is valuable from a bibliophil's standpoint. A writer on the history of English drama or literature would do well to consult this valuable specialist library of English dramatic works and their commentaries. I mention this, as few would expect to find a collection of this character in the Land's End district. I understand there are works

in this collection not to be found even in the British Museum. The collection was presented in three lots, and the donor's name is in each volume.

(*c.*) *The Carne Bequest.* This Bequest of the Rev. J. Carne is mainly either theological or mathematical. There is a useful collection of translations of the Fathers ("Library of the Fathers"). Also, a set of works on higher mathematics. This is a very useful department of the library, but I have not noticed any rare works in it.

(*d.*) The local collection of topographical works on Cornwall I have heard stated to be one of the best in England, and probably in the world, after the British Museum or Bodleian, and the splendid private collection of Mr. W. C. Borlase. It contains most of the works on Cornwall in the English language, and the proceedings of the Cornish societies, *e.g.*:—

1. Royal Institution of Cornwall.
2. Royal Polytechnic Society.
3. Penzance Natural History Society.

Almost every book on Cornwall which is published, and is within our means, we try to procure for this collection.

The General Library. The General Library is especially strong in historical and antiquarian works. There are most of the standard histories. Among the more important works are Dugdale's Monasticon, 8 vols. folio, Oliver's Monasticon, Religious Ceremonies, Montfaucon's Antiquities, a complete collection of Notes and Queries, a complete set of Cabinet des Fées, 41 vols., Gould's Birds and Couch's Fishes, &c. The publications of the Early English Text Society are here, and also complete bound collections of several magazines. This is a feature in which an old library has an advantage over a new one. If magazines are regularly bound, in the process of years a valuable series is procured, such as would be very difficult to purchase. West Country people, who cannot conveniently consult the British Museum, and who want to find old magazine articles, might find the Penzance library useful.

Library of the Penzance Natural History and Antiquarian Society. This is mainly kept in the Penzance Library, and is used by its members; some of the books however are kept in the Society's museum. There is, also, a small library of scientific reports, &c.; in the museum, including Smithsonian Reports, Catalogues of Insects, &c.

Private Libraries. The subject of Private Libraries is a delicate one to deal with in a paper like this, but I may mention the following in Penzance:—

1. The library of Rev. Prebendary Hedgeland, an excellent well-selected library of 5000 volumes, which is to be bequeathed to the Penzance Public Library, and will be a most valuable addition to it, as it contains numbers of useful books. There are some rare books of the 15th century, and also curious examples of bookbinding. This library is I believe especially strong in old English literature. There are several modern works here which do not exist elsewhere in Cornwall.

2. The library of Dr. Millett in Chapel-street, Penzance, is worthy of mention. (1.) The Manuscript volumes of Cornish Pedigrees are of considerable value. (2.) A Bounds Book of S. Just Parish from 1655-1774, unique MS. (3.) Extracts from Parish registers, MS. (4.) Theological and other works of Queen Anne's time. (5.) Monthly Review, 1774, &c. (6.) Rare Medical Works. (7.) Most Cornish Histories.

One of the finest private libraries in Cornwall exists in my own parish of Newlyn,

at Laregan, and is the property of the well-known antiquary, Mr. W. Copeland Borlase, M.P. for East Cornwall.

The most valuable part of this library is 47 volumes of Borlase MSS., containing some unfinished and minor works of the famous Dr. Borlase, and vast masses of extracts of matters relating to Cornish History. Of course this collection is unique of its kind, and no copies exist of much of the matter contained in it. There is also a collection by Dr. Borlase of the unpublished portions of Hals. In vol. xli is a curious little book of the Excursions of Dr. Borlase from 1751-8. The original letters of Dr. Borlase are of some value. There is an excellent collection of Cornish pamphlets and tracts, some of them unique. The collection of works on Cornish Archæology is excellent and very complete. Most of the books of value on the subject are to be found in this library. Lysons, Polwhele, Fletcher, Maclean are of course here. Some of the Civil War Tracts on Cornwall are valuable and rare. I believe the Cornish department to be the most complete collection of Cornish MSS. and books in existence, and students of Cornish subjects would find them of great value. The collection of books on Japan and Oriental religions is good, including Sir William Jones' Works, Legge's Chinese Classics, Sanscrit Texts, &c.

I may say that there is a well-selected private museum in addition to the library at Laregan, containing Cornish antiquities and Oriental curiosities. There is also an excellent catalogue belonging to this valuable library, which facilitates consultation.

After such a library as this it may seem presumption for me to mention that I have inherited from my father, Colonel Krystyn Lach-Szyrma, some Slavonic works in Polish and Bohemian which are rare in England and also materials for the modern history of Poland, which my father regarded as unique. As for the more recent additions I have made, I fear they are of small value to bibliophils, being mostly modern works on antiquities and folk lore. From a philologist's standpoint my little library might be interesting, as I have books in French, German, Latin, Greek, Polish, Russian, Bohemian, Spanish and Italian. The MSS. are nearly all family writings.

I may add that in Newlyn we have a little fisherman's library of popular books in connection with our Newlyn Institute, which I should much like to see augmented.

In the extreme North of Penwith there is a valuable library belonging to the Vicar of Zennor, Rev. Mr. Borlase. Some of the books I understand are rare.

At S. Michael's Mount also Sir John St. Aubyn has a valuable library and some rare books. It includes Lysons' Cornwall and Carew's, with unique pictures of places now destroyed, also a Herald's Visitation of 1620, a Survey of Duchy Lands of 17 James I., a French book of Hours of about 1500 pages, several antiquarian, Cornish and architectural works; also Gould's Birds. The curiosities at St. Michael's Mount are very interesting.

The Westernmost public library in England is the St. Just Institute Library. It may not be of much value from a bibliophil's standpoint, but its books are useful in spreading intelligence and thought to near the very end of England.

At Boskenna, in Buryan, where our Penzance Natural History and Antiquarian Society had their recent visit, there are I understand some rare books belonging to the Painter family.

At Porthcurnow, in connection with the Eastern Telegraph Station there is an excellent little semi-public library for the use of the telegraphists. It is mainly of well selected popular works, but I believe the electrical science department is very good.

Thus within a few miles of the Land's End there are two useful little libraries for public use, showing that the intellectual movement of England spreads to the regions where the wide Atlantic disputes supremacy with the granite rocks of Bolerium.

Such are our libraries in the Land's End district; I think they are no discredit to the force and vigour of English civilization and culture.

I shall conclude with these practical remarks. As for the public libraries I believe they may be seen and consulted by visitors. As for their contents, if any bibliophil possesses duplicates or works he does not require, I believe any of them are thankful for contributions of any kind, and their situation in the extreme west of England may perhaps form some little claim to their being so benefited. In almost all of them the books are well cared for and well used.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT AS APPLIED TO THE LIGHTING OF THE INNER TEMPLE LIBRARY.

By J. E. L. Pickering, Librarian.

When asked by our Honorary Secretary, Mr. Thomas, to read a paper at our monthly meeting on "The Electric Light as applied to the lighting of the Inner Temple Library," I had some hesitation in replying in the affirmative, as my experience had hardly been sufficient to warrant my posing as an authority on the subject. The fact, however, that it might be interesting to members to be made acquainted with the results of the five months' trial which the light has had in this library, and also that, by the kindness of the Treasurer of this Society, Mr. Staveley Hill, Q.C., M.P., it was possible to hold the meeting here, and thus afford members the opportunity of seeing the light in actual working order, gave me some hope that the meagreness of this paper might be overlooked, and that, moreover, some interesting discussion might ensue.

The question of an effective, and at the same time harmless, illuminant for use in libraries has always been a subject of very great interest to librarians. Gas, except perhaps in the form of sunlights, is out of court on account of the heat and dryness it engenders in the atmosphere, and the consequent damage done to the binding. It vitiates the air also to the discomfort of the reader, and, even when applied in its best form, is not, I venture to think, suitable to libraries. Such light should be of a soft and refined character, and harmonise thoroughly with the surroundings. From gas, too, there must necessarily be a constant danger from fire. Oil lamps, which give an admirable light to the reader, require very great care in the trimming, and are very apt to be the cause of damage to books, tables or carpets, either through the upsetting of oil, or perhaps leakage from a lamp; moreover they take a long time to light, and when darkness sets in suddenly, as we who live in London know is not infrequent, a vexatious delay occurs, during which time readers and students are brought to a standstill. Again, although the light when received is soft and pleasant, it is altogether insufficient to illuminate the letterings of books on the shelves; volumes are apt to be misplaced, and recourse has to be had to a candle to find any particular work that may be required. It is little wonder then that when the electric light took practical form and shape, and more especially when the form of incandescent lamp was brought to its present state, that librarians looked forward to its introduction to their libraries with some degree of pleasure, as likely to solve what heretofore had been a most

difficult problem, viz., an efficient light, quickly obtainable, and non-injurious to books or to readers.

It will be well now to explain, as illustrating the title of this paper, the steps taken by the Benchers of this Inn, which led to the present installation, and to the success which has attended it.

The introduction of the electric light into the library having been decided on, the question as to the best system of installation was most thoroughly gone into by Mr. Clerk, Q.C., the then Treasurer, and by Mr. Cates the Architect. A memorandum was drawn up, which gave in a very clear manner the object that it was wished to attain. The valuable suggestions as to the mode of lighting, &c., to be adopted given in this memorandum, which was sent round to the principal firms of electrical engineers, who were invited to tender, formed the groundwork on which the entire installation was carried out, and I attribute much of its success to the clear lines which it laid down—most valuable at this initial stage of the work. I give some of the paragraphs, which seem to be specially germane to this paper :

"The contractors are invited to give particular attention to the lighting, in order that it may be so arranged as to avoid the casting of shadows on books and papers, which may interfere with reading and writing.

"It is also essential that the bookcases should be so well lighted that books may with ease be selected therefrom.

"Arrangements should be made for lighting the dark corners where required, even during the day when the library generally is not lighted.

"The arrangement of the lamps so as to provide an ample diffused light, and to protect the eyes from the brilliant source of light, is an important consideration.

"It will be for the contractors to consider whether the means they may propose for lighting the library will also completely light the galleries, so that they may be used for the purpose of reference to the books therein, and the books be readily found. If this would not be the case, an arrangement of lamps which would effectually secure this and be independent for each section of the gallery must be provided, so that a reader might himself turn on the light to the section in which he desires to make search, and it is desirable that this should be possible even during the day when the library generally is not lighted."

The Edison Swan Electric Lighting Company was finally employed to carry out the work. The question now arose as to the best form of fittings for distributing the light in the series of rooms forming the library. Before coming to a decision on this important matter, an opportunity was afforded me of seeing the House of Commons library and the adjoining suite of rooms lighted up. Electroliers and single pendants are there both in use, and I was able to judge of the relative effect of the light given when emanating from a large number of lamps grouped together, and on the other hand that produced by the light from single pendants distributed about the rooms at equal distances apart.

No doubt was left on my mind that the latter would be much the most suitable for the objects we had in view, namely—an equally diffused soft light, and I reported strongly in its favour to our architect. The result has, I venture to think, satisfactorily borne out my anticipation. The pendants then having been adopted, it was necessary to fix the position of each one, and this was done by marking on a plan the exact locality of the lamps. No alteration has been necessary in the position of any of the lights, and in fact no after rectification of any of the work done in the library has been necessary. A somewhat stronger light has been given in room C, as that part is very largely used, and the catalogue is also placed there for reference. With this exception the light is remarkably uniform throughout. The lamps in the gallery are on separate circuits from those on the ground floor, and each light can be turned on or off at will,

differing in this respect from those on the ground floor, which are divided into five sections, with a switch to each.

These main switches are placed in a room easy of access to the officials but out of reach of any other person. In the gallery however to each lamp there is a button, which when turned gives the light at once. In addition there are three lamps on the ground floor connected with the gallery circuit, so that they also can be lighted independently of the other lamps.

The motive power for the whole installation (140 lights) is obtained from a 12-horse power Otto gas engine which can be started in a few minutes, this being in fact its chief advantage over a steam engine. This engine drives the dynamo, which is one of those known as Edison's American; the dynamo is supplemented by a powerful accumulator which will keep sixty lights burning for 5 hours; it has however never been tested for that length of time, a temporary failure of the gas service regulator for a quarter of an hour being the longest period for which we have had to trust to it. In any installation of the electric light the desirability of making use of accumulators cannot be too strongly urged, for though it is possible that in some respects they may be improved upon, yet without them it is almost impossible to get a perfectly steady light, when the current is received by the lamp direct from a dynamo actuated by a gas engine. It *is* possible, I understand, when a steam engine is used, but even then there remains the disadvantage of not being able to get the light at a moment's notice. The construction of the Swan lamp is now well known. The feature of the lamps here used is that the bulbs are of frosted glass; a certain amount of light is lost, but the carbon filament does not dazzle the eye and the whole light is toned down and softened. With plain glass only, we should have a somewhat garish illuminant. The average life of these lamps is supposed to be about 1000 hours, but from my experience of their longevity, I do not think that high estimate can be supported. Since October 24, the light has been burning about 250 hours, and we have already lost over 25 lamps, or, nearly one-fourth of those that have been burning regularly—a very large percentage. Moreover, it is noticeable that the lamps give gradually less and less light as the carbon filament wears away, and the disintegrated carbon itself falling to the bottom of the glass clouds and discolors it, which again helps to diminish the light. The difference between an old lamp and a new one is very evident when they are alight and placed side by side. I call attention to the short life of these lamps, because it appears to be the one unsatisfactory feature in the lighting, and is also of course a considerable item in the expenditure, as each bulb costs 6s. I am not aware whether my experience in this matter would be confirmed by others, who have had more practical experience. The makers attribute the short life of the lamps in our case to the fact that the engine has been worked at too high a speed, and that consequently too strong a current has been sent through them. It is quite possible that this explanation may be the correct one. With reference to this subject of lamps, Mr. Preece, a great authority on all matters connected with electric lighting, may be quoted. In a paper which he read before the Society of Arts, as recently as the 24th of last month, he says "unfortunately glow lamps deteriorate sadly with age, the carbon wastes imperceptibly away, and we are scarcely conscious of the fact that after 200 or 300 hours the lamp gives only half the light it did at first. . . . . The price of a lamp should be such that we can afford to give them a short and merry life."

The precautions taken against fire by the introduction into the circuit of a wire of

soft metal, which fuses should it get overheated, and thus prevents the passage of the current, seems an effectual preventive, and the fact that the Insurance Companies have not increased the premium paid by the Inn seems conclusive that they also are of that opinion.

Having stated as clearly as I am able the mode in which the light has been applied here, I come to the financial part of the question. Now with that I am happy to say I had nothing to do, but feeling that any paper on this subject would be very incomplete unless some idea of the cost of the installation was given, I have procured the figures relating to cost and maintenance from Mr. Belshaw, the gentleman under whose direction the Edison-Swan Company carried out the work, and I cannot, I think, do better than read his statement.

57, Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C.

J. E. L. PICKERING, Esq., Library, Inner Temple, E.C. 1*st April*, 1886.

DEAR SIR,—The following details give the cost of working an installation of 100 lights from a gas engine. The cost of working the Temple installation is I believe a little more than that given in the figures below, but this has been due to the circumstances which I explained to you yesterday. The large proportion of lamps that have given out during the six months of running is also due to the same cause, which is clearly shewn by the fact that by far the greater number of them have been burned out in the engine room, and the next largest number on the staircase. The measures which we are now taking will I hope reduce the consumption of gas and lengthen the life of the lamps.

The cost of the entire installation, including buildings and every kind of expense in connection with the work was, I believe, about £1,500. The amount of our contract was £1,266. but I would point out that this sum included a great deal of work which was done in contemplation of an extension of the light to other parts of the building, and I estimate that an installation of 150 lights with a gas engine and dynamo, but without counter-shafting, and including a set of accumulators, might be put up for about £1,000., or even less, as the cost of carrying out work of this description depends entirely upon its structural conditions.

The Temple installation has consumed about 400 feet of gas per hour, taking charging the accumulators and lighting together. The gas, I believe, is 3*s*. a thousand. This gives a cost for the entire installation of 1*s*. 2*d*. an hour. The oil and waste cost, about 6*s*. a week. The lamp renewals I shall not attempt to deal with, because I consider that the conditions under which they have been running are abnormal. The following figures are, I consider a fairer estimate of what the cost should be :—

One hundred 16 candle-power lamps require 13 horse-power, and would take 325 cubic feet of gas per hour, at 3*s*. per 100=1*s*. per hour.

Average life of lamps 1,500 hours ; cost of renewals for 100 at 5*s*. each=4*d*. per hour.

Oil and waste would cost about 5*s*. per week.

The attendance necessary would, of course, add to the above amount. If a man were specially engaged it would constitute a serious item, but I think that, under ordinary circumstances, some man employed in other ways about the place would run the gas engine, and therefore not add to the cost of maintenance.

The depreciation on the plant should be taken at 5 per cent.; although in the case of the accumulators it might be somewhat higher, it would on other parts of the installation be very much less.

Interest on capital I do not think it necessary to take into account in estimating the cost of an installation which is not being worked as a money-making investment.

Comparing the cost of an equivalent illumination to the above by means of gas consumed in the ordinary way, we have as follows :—

One 14 candle-power burner consumes 5 cubic feet per hour, and for an illumination of 1,600 candle-power, 570 cubic feet of gas would be consumed, costing at the same rate as above 1s. 8½d. per hour.

The repairs and attendance and other details connected with this would about counterbalance that on an electrical plant, and you are doubtless as well acquainted with the disadvantages of the combustion of gas in a library as I am, and therefore I will not attempt to point out the immense advantages gained in the use of the electric light, by reason of its entire absence from the corrosive influences of gas upon books.

I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

THOS. O. BELSHAW.

That is the statement as given by the Edison-Swan Electric Lighting Company. Perhaps as regards the cost of maintenance it should be taken *cum grano salis*. Probably the whole expense under that item, which includes gas, oil, man's wages, etc., will be found to fall not far short of 4s. per hour. In conclusion I would say that though the Electric Light cannot I think, at present, compete as regards price with either gas or oil, it should be remembered that we have in it, for all purposes connected with a library, a vastly superior light to that given by either.

LORD B——— AND LORD B*******.

By George C. Boase.

In the majority of large libraries copies of the following books will be found, which I number for the sake of reference.

1. Two generations, or birth, parentage and education. A novel. By the Earl of Belfast. Lond., Bentley, 1851. 2 vols. 8vo, 21s.

2. Poets and poetry of the nineteenth century. A course of lectures. By the Earl of Belfast. Lond., Longmans, 1852. 8vo, 6s. 6d.

3. Masters and workmen. A tale illustrative of the social and moral condition of the people. By Lord B———. Lond., Newby, 1851. 3 vols. 8vo, 31s. 6d.

4. The farce of life. A novel. By Lord B*******, Author of "Masters and Workmen." Lond., Newby, 1852. 3 vols. 8vo, 31s. 6d.

5. Wealth and labour. A novel. By Lord B*******, Author of "Masters and Workmen." Lond., Newby, 1853. 3 vols. 8vo, 31s. 6d.

6. The county magistrate. A novel. By Lord B*******, Author of "Masters and Workmen." Lond., Newby, 1835. 3 vols. 8vo, 31s. 6d.

7. Naples, political, social and religious. By Lord B*******, Author of "Masters and Workmen." Lond., Newby, 1856. 2 vols. 8vo, 21s.

8. The fate of folly. A novel. By Lord B*******, Author of "Masters and Workmen." Lond., Newby, 1859. 3 vols. 8vo, 31s. 6d.

There is no discussion as to the author of Nos. 1 and 2, but the question is who wrote the other six books. The British Museum authorities attribute them to the Earl of Belfast because in the style of the writing there is a resemblance to "Two Generations." Halkett and Laing's Dictionary of Anonymous Literature gives some of them to the Earl of Belfast and others to Lord Brougham, but it is only fair to state that in the errata to the three volumes there is a correction to some of the statements in the text. Mr. Cushing, in his "Initials and Pseudonyms" recently published, seems to have taken his information on the matter from the Edinburgh volumes. This shows that an error once made does much mischief, and is very hard to correct.

As to the first supposition that the Earl of Belfast wrote Nos. 3—8, it is to be noticed that he died in 1853, and as a further piece of evidence that he did not write these books, I am permitted by his sister, the Countess of Shaftesbury, to state that she "does not think that any of the books after No. 2 are by her brother, Lord Belfast, —she never heard of them, and they certainly were not among her father's books." The statement that Lord Brougham composed any of these works is still less satisfactory; it has always been known that he wrote one novel, "Albert Lunel," and in Ralph Thomas's Bibliography of Brougham he is not credited with any other work of fiction.

In 1851 Lord Brougham was 72 years of age, and it requires a large amount of credulity to believe that afterwards he wrote several volumes of fiction in rapid succession.

I think it has now been shown that it is very improbable that these works were written either by Lord Belfast or Lord Brougham. B******* would not represent the name Belfast, but they would the name Brougham, which is probably the only reason why the books have been attributed to him. Who then was the author? for the connection certainly shows that the six books were all by the same person. Mr. Newby was the publisher of the series. Is he still living, and could any information be obtained from him? Possibly some of our Members may, during their library work, have come across something bearing on this matter which may help towards an endeavour to have the books allotted to their rightful author.

SOME RECENT BOOKS.[1]

Mr. Lowe's Life of Prince Bismarck is a work of peculiar value. It not only supplies the reader with an excellent account of the great changes in the politics and the political condition of Europe, and especially of the German nation, which are identified with the name of its hero; but Mr. Lowe's familiarity with Germany and things German and his exhaustive study of the literature of the subject give it a special authority. It is overflowing with the interest due to the greatness of the hero whose 'nation making' career it depicts; and the interest gains much from the graphic and characteristic style of the writer. It is a book which should most emphatically be on the shelves of every library.

Mr. Rowbotham's History of Music is not, as might have been expected from the title, an account of modern music but an elaborate anthropological study of music in all its manifestations from pre-historic times and amongst all peoples. Its interest is not confined to the professed musician, but it is an important contribution to the history of civilization. It is to occupy three volumes, of which the two now before us deal with the earlier civilizations and barbarisms. The second volume is almost entirely devoted to Greece.

Mr. Gosse has contributed to the excellent series of "English Worthies," edited by

[1] Prince Bismarck, an historical biography. By Charles Lowe, M.A. Cassell & Co., 1885. 2 vols. 8vo, pp. xii. 639, xii. 633. Price 30s.

A History of Music. By John Frederick Rowbotham. London: Trübner & Co., 1885-6. 2 vols. 8vo, pp. xx. 342, vi. 645.

English Worthies. Raleigh. By Edmund Gosse, M.A. London: Longmans, 1886. 8vo, pp. vi. 248. Price 2s. 6d.

A short History of Parliament. By B. C. Skottowe, M.A. London: Sonnenschein, 1886. 8vo, pp. iv. 339. Price 3s. 6d.

The English Parliament in its transformations through a thousand years. By Dr. Rudolf Gneist, translated by R. Jenery Shee. London: H. Grevel & Co., 1886. 8vo, pp. xxviii. 380. 14s.

The Annals of Manchester. A chronological record from the earliest times to the end of 1885. Edited by William E. A. Axon. John Heywood. 8vo, pp. xvii. 457. Price 7s. 6d.

The History of the Forty Vezirs...Written in Turkish by Sheykh-Zāda. Done into English by E. J. W. Gibb. London: Redway, 1886. 8vo, pp. xl. 420. Price 10s. 6d.

A History of Derbyshire. By John Pendleton. London: Elliot Stock, 1886. 8vo, pp. xvi. 290. Price 7s. 6d.

Kidnapped, being Memoirs of the adventures of David Balfour in the year 1751...By Robert Louis Stevenson. Cassell & Co. 8vo, pp. viii. 311. Price 5s.

The Choice of Books and other literary pieces. By Frederic Harrison. Second edition. London: Macmillan, 1886. 8vo, pp. ix. 447.

Mr. Lang, an interesting and well written account of Sir Walter Ralegh. We are glad to notice that he has derived some assistance from Dr. Brushfield's researches.

Mr. Skottowe's Short History of Parliament has been written, he tells us, with the hope of "combining instruction with a certain amount of amusement." It appears to have been put together with care and accuracy from the well-known text books, and should form a convenient summary for popular use. The absence of references to authorities disentitles it to a higher claim.

Professor Gneist's book on 'The English Parliament' is one of a somewhat different character. Perhaps no foreigner and certainly few Englishmen have made so thorough a study of the whole body of English institutions as Professor Gneist, who has published the results of his research in a series of monumental treatises. The present work is a review of our parliamentary system, and is not so much a historical or systematic treatise on the scale of his earlier works as an essay in political philosophy—the main result of which appears to be that the radical changes that have taken place must render it impossible to continue our old system of government by party. Professor Gneist's work deserves careful study and we wish that it had been better translated; Mr. Shee is not always faithful and is always clumsy.

Mr. Gibb's translation of the 'History of the Forty Vezirs, or the Story of the Forty Morns and Eves,' will be valued not only for its narrative interest but as a contribution to the comparative history of popular tales. The book is very handsomely got up.

Mr. Axon has made virtually a new book in revising the *Manchester Historical Recorder* as The Annals of Manchester. As was to be expected Mr. Axon has paid full attention to library and literary matters.

Mr. Pendleton's History of Derbyshire consists of more or less amusing gossip; but has no claim to the fullness, the system or the accuracy to be expected in a history. The title is misleading and the book disappointing.

Mr. Stevenson's tale is as interesting as Defoe's, and will charm everyone who takes it up.

We are glad to receive the second edition of Mr. Frederic Harrison's "literary pieces," although he does speak somewhat disparagingly of libraries and of collectors. Nevertheless there is much to be said for Mr. Harrison's contention in the series of papers which give their title to this volume that we require "the nerve to reject," and that amid the mass of ephemeral matter continually flowing from the press and filling our shelves we lose sight of the best, and neglect the great books of the world. Mr. Harrison's advice in the choice of these "great books" is of course excellent. We observe that there are two or three misprints, which should have been corrected in the second edition.

The Library Chronicle.

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is issued on the 15th of the month, and communications, books for review, etc., intended for the forthcoming number should be addressed, not later than the 10th of the month, to the Hon. Editor,* ERNEST C. THOMAS, *care of Messrs. J. Davy & Sons, 137, Long Acre, W.C.*

The attention of librarians and library committees, of publishers and booksellers, is called to the advantages of the CHRONICLE *(which represents at least 300 libraries) as an advertising medium. Advertisements of Library Vacancies, and of Books Wanted, or Duplicates for Sale or Exchange by Libraries are inserted at low rates.*

Members of the Library Association whose subscription for the current year has been paid are entitled to receive the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association cannot be responsible for the views expressed by the contributors to the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association.

NOVEMBER MONTHLY MEETING.

The November Monthly Meeting was held at Gray's Inn Library on Friday, November 5th, at 7.30 p.m., Mr. James Yates, Public Librarian, Leeds, in the chair.

It was announced that the Watford Public Library had joined the Association, and Mr. S. W. Silver was proposed for election at the next meeting.

Mr. G. R. Humphery exhibited specimens of book supports, manufactured by Messrs. F. Braby & Co., Limd.

The Chairman then called upon the Hon. Sec. to read a Paper on "The Bibliography of Domesday Book." After a short discussion a vote of thanks was passed to the writer of the paper, and the meeting adjourned.

The December Monthly Meeting will be held at Gray's Inn Library on Friday, Dec. 3rd, at 7.30 p.m., when a Paper will be read by Mr. A. W. Robertson, Librarian of the Free Public Library, Aberdeen, on "The Arrangements for Periodicals at Aberdeen."

Library Notes and News.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—A new building is required for the Free Library. The books have over-crowded the shelves and are covering the tables and floor. The present library is in the upper storey of the Town Hall, and is therefore very inconveniently situated, and, no doubt, has prevented the more extended use of the library. An expenditure of about £5,000 for a new building was foreshadowed at the Town Council Meeting on Oct. 13th.

BOLTON.—On a visit of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society to Bolton on Oct. 9, the members went to the Free Library, where Mr. J. K. Waite, the librarian, read a Paper descriptive of the history and characteristics of the institution. A full report is given in the *Bolton Daily Chronicle* of Oct 11.

EDINBURGH.—At a largely attended meeting of citizens held on Wednesday, Oct 27, under the presidency of the Lord Provost, the Libraries Act was adopted by an almost unanimous vote. (See Mr. Richardson's letter in this number.)

GLOSSOP.—To commemorate Her Majesty's Jubilee, Mr. Councillor Herbert Rhodes has offered to give £2,000 towards a free library, public baths, or a public hall for Glossop. Captain Partington has also announced his intention to to give £2000 towards a free library.

HUCKNALL TORKARD, NOTTS.—There has been considerable delay in the transfer of the land, (which has now been effected), upon which the free library is to be erected. The land is now being cleared, and the building will no doubt be shortly proceeded with. The Hucknall Colliery Company have given £2,000 towards this.

LONDON.—Mr. Robert W. Frazer, B.A., late of the India Civil Service, and latterly lecturer in Tamil and Telugu at University College, has been appointed Superintendent and Librarian of the London Institution, in succession to Mr. J. M. Horsburgh.

MANCHESTER : CHETHAM'S LIBRARY.—The feofees of this ancient foundation have appointed Mr. J. E. Tinkler as librarian. This office has been vacant since the death of Mr. Thomas Jones in 1875. Mr. Tinkler has been sub-librarian since 1883, and has made himself very popular with the frequenters of the institution.

MANCHESTER: FREE LIBRARIES.—Reading rooms for the districts of Harpurhey and Bradford, which have recently been added to the city, are about to be opened. At the chief library in King Street a new reading room has been provided for specifications of patents, directories and newspaper files, and additional provision for the storage of books has been made. An extension has been effected in the hours during which the libraries are open. At the Reference Library the hours are now from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., being an additional hour both morning and evening. The reading rooms at the branches are also kept open till 10 o'clock, instead of 9 o'clock as hitherto.

NOTTINGHAM.—The tenth Nottingham branch Free Public Library and Reading Room was opened in Dame Agnes Street on Wednesday evening, October 27th, by J. Alfred Jacoby, Esq., M.P. Captain Starey, J.P., the founder of the Free Library presided. There was a large and enthusiastic audience. The room has been specially built for the purposes of a reading room, and has been taken on a lease of fourteen years, at a rental of £50 per annum. It is large, lofty, well ventilated and lighted, cheerful in appearance, and very conveniently planned. There is a small library of over 400 vols. of works of reference, study, and recreation here. Mr. Ridgway of Long Eaton was the architect.

NOTTINGHAM.—A meeting of the blind was held at the Social Guild Institution, for the purpose of organizing the work of visiting, employing and teaching the blind, on November 4th, under the presidency of Col. Seeley. Addresses were given on the Library for the Blind, in connection with the Central Free Public Lending Library, by the Town Clerk (S. G. Johnson, Esq.), Captain Starey, J.P., Chairman of the Library Committee, and by Mr. Briscoe, Public Librarian. A number of additions have been made to the stock of books for the blind at the Free Library, since Mr. Briscoe read his paper on "Libraries for the Blind."

PORT-GLASGOW.—The building of the Moffat Library is approaching completion. It will comprise a lending library, and reading, billiard, smoking and recreation rooms. The style is of the early French Renaissance. The founder of the library was the late Mr. James Moffat, a local merchant, who bequeathed £3,000 for its erection.

POOLE.—A proposal having been made for the erection of a building for a free library and school of science and art, at Poole, in celebration of the Queen's Jubilee, an anonymous person has offered £1,000, provided the scheme is carried out. The "anonymous" person is Alderman Norton, a well-known teetotaller. He calculates the sum as the savings of himself and family in abstaining during a lifetime from intoxicating drinks.

RAMSGATE.—The Town Clerk of Ramsgate writes: I am sorry I cannot give you favourable information as to the progress of the free library question in Ramsgate. A public meeting under the Libraries' Act was held in the Town Hall in June last, but there was so much uproar that it broke up without passing any resolution."

STALYBRIDGE.—It is proposed to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee at Stalybridge by founding a free library. The idea is to raise a sufficient sum to erect a handsome building in a central position in the town. It is estimated that about £3,000 will be required.

WIMBLEDON.—We understand that the Free Public Library Committee have appointed as librarian Mr. Rabbit, Sub-librarian of the Athenæum Library, Manchester.

The paper read by Prof. Pollock at our Annual Meeting has been the subject of some controversy in the *Times*. Mr. Pickering, Librarian of the Inner Temple, in a letter printed on Oct. 26, criticizes Prof. Pollock's criticisms, and Mr. Hutchinson, Librarian of the Middle Temple, in a letter printed on Oct. 29, comes to Mr. Pickering's assistance. Prof. Pollock, in a letter printed the same day, suggests the propriety of waiting until his paper is printed in an authorized form—a suggestion which will commend itself to all sensible persons.

Library Catalogues and Reports.

Burgh of Aberdeen. Report by the Public Library Committee, 1885-86. 8vo, pp. 24.

This is an exhaustive report of part of the first year's work. The library system consists of a lending library 15,852 vols., and a reading room which contains some books of reference. The library is divided into the following ten classes:—Philosophy; theology; sociology; philology; science; useful arts; fine arts; general literature; fiction and juveniles; biography, history, and travels. The lending library was opened at the old Mechanics' Hall, for the issue of books, March 5th, 1886. To the end of September 9,861 readers were enrolled. In June the reading room was removed to Thurburn Hall to provide the necessary accommodation at the library. The daily average issues were 697 vols., and the general turn-over 7·21. The issues in fiction, poetry, and the drama were 58·71 per cent. The attendance at the Reading Room averaged 1,400 daily, and 6,570 vols. were consulted there. The comparative table is inaccurate and incomplete, and therefore misleading. (See last page of this number).

The Fourth Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Public Library, Barrow-in-Furness, 1885-6. 8vo, pp. 15.

The lending library contains 9,528 vols., of which number 762 were added during the year, and the reference library 1,930 vols. The issues were, from the lending library 72,243 vols. (being 7,153 vols. in excess of those of the preceding year), and in the reference library 17,015 vols., against 22,330 in 1884-5. The issues of fiction were 52 per cent. in the lending library. During the year 344 vols. were "added to the collection for the use of juvenile readers, and a complete catalogue of this section has been published, resulting in an increased circulation of the books, the total number lent during the year being 11,051," being a turn-over of 9 during the year. There are 1,951 borrowers on the books. The daily average attendance in the newsroom is about 1,275 per day.

Borough of Leamington Spa. * * * Annual Report, 1885-86. 4to, pp. 8.

This is the "Chairman's Annual Report," in which it is stated that "the great event of the past year . . . has been the preparation and publication of the new catalogues of the reference and lending libraries. The work, which was very heavy, occupied the catalogue committee [of four] . . . nearly nine months, each [meeting] of two hours' duration." The stock reported was 12,394 vols., of which number 8,327 are in the lending library. 2,000 "useless volumes" were withdrawn during the year, and 1,763 replaced. Both libraries were re-arranged by the catalogue committee. The daily average attendance for the year was 789 against 852 in the previous year. The monthly average issues from the lending library were 4,094 vols., against 3,272 during the year preceding. The reference library was closed for four months and a half for removal and fitting up. Since its re-opening the issues have doubled. 428 persons were admitted to borrowing privileges during the year.

Westminster. United Parishes of St. Margaret and St. John the Evangelist, Westminster. Twenty-ninth Annual Report . . . of the Commissioners of the Free Public Libraries, 1885-86.

The chief library in Great Smith Street, contains 16,610 vols., and the branch library in Trevor Square at Knightsbridge 2,606, making a total stock of 19,216 vols. The total issues in the two libraries and reading rooms during the year were 139,461 vols. (being a daily average of 454), against 124,921 in 1884-5, and 112,816 in 1883-4. During the period comprised in this report 1,023 were admitted to borrowing membership. A room will shortly be "set apart for ratepayers and ladies," and another room "a large and well-lit and ventilated public reading room," in connection with the branch library at Knightsbridge. On July 1, 1885, there was a balance of £427, and on June 30, 1886, £540. The year's receipts were £1,494, and the expenditure £1,380. The rents and taxes absorbed £237.

Seventeenth Annual Report of the Woverhampton Free Library Committee. folio, pp. 8.

The year covered by this report "was distinguished by much progress, and signs of healthy activity." The issues from the lending library were 62,817 vols., being an increase on the previous year's issues of 16,634 vols. The reference library issues were 9,783 vols., an increase of 3,772; and 1,139 specifications of patents were issued, or 401 more than in the preceding year. 789 vols. were added during the year to the lending library, a large portion being juvenile literature. 1,176 borrowers' cards were issued, against 1,056 in 1884-56. The lending library stock (as reported) was 23,323 vols., and that of the reference library 4,467 vols. Twenty-five Saturday Evening lectures were delivered and were well attended.

Record of Bibliography and Library Literature.

Books for a Reference Library. Being lectures on the books in the Reference Department of the Free Public Library, Birmingham, 1885. London: Simpkin, Marshall & Co. First series. 8vo, pp. 192. Price 2s. 6d.

The lectures at Birmingham, to which we have already more that once referred, have been collected into a handy volume. Each lecture was followed by a bibliographical appendix, and these are now put together at the end of the volume. In some of the lists we notice books which need hardly figure in a select bibliography. The lectures include the subjects of "Books on Law and Jurisprudence," and "Legal and Constitutional History," by Councillor G. J. Johnson; "The Greek and Latin Classics," by Rev. A. R. Vardy; "Shakespeare," by Sam. Timmins; "Botanical Books" (two lectures), by Prof. W. Hillhouse; and "Some Art Books," by Ald. W. Kenrick, M.P.

The Diversions of a Book-worm: by J. Rogers Rees. London: Elliot Stock, 1886. 8vo, pp. [vii] 258. Price 4s. 6d.

A little volume of pleasantly written and unpretentious essays, disfigured occasionally however by inaccurate printing and wanting an index.

Order of the Classification of Sion College Library, London. London: R. Clay & Sons, 1886. 8vo, pp. 54.

The classification has been drawn up by the Rev. W. H. Milman for the new library recently completed on the Thames Embankment. The divisions are A. Theology (including Ecclesiastical history and canon law); B. History; C. Philosophy; D. Social Science; E. Natural Science; F. Useful Arts; G. Fine Arts; H. Philology; K. Literature; L. Bibliography and Fine Arts. The bulk of the library consists of works in theology and history.

Les femmes bibliophiles de France (XVI^{e}, XVII^{e} et XVIII^{e} siècles): par E. Q. Bauchart. Paris: D. Morgand 1886. Vols. I-II., la. 8vo.

No other country can show such a long line of female book collectors as France, from Diane de Poitiers, Catherine de Medicis, and Marguerite de Valois to Madame de Pompadour, Madame de Verrue and others of later days. Mr. Andrew Lang reviews M. Bauchart in an article "Lady Book-lovers" in the November *Fortnightly Review*.

Bibliographie Parisienne. Tableaux de mœurs (1600-1880): par Paul Lacombe, Parisien, avec une préface par M. Jules Cousin. Paris: P. Rouquette, 1887. 8vo, pp. xx, 249. Price 15s.

An admirable account of the literature in various languages illustrating the manners and customs of the Parisians from the commencement of the 17th century to the present time. The titles are given in full, with collations and ample explanatory notes. M. Cousin strikes the proper note when in his preface he says:—"Pour dresser une bonne bibliographie, il faut connaître, il faut voir, il faut feuilleter tous les livres dont on parle, en saisir l'esprit en même temps qu'on en décrit la forme et qu'on en relève le titre exact."

The *Library Journal* for October contains the commencement of a series of articles by R. R. Bowker, entitled "Memories among English Librarians."

"Icelandic books of the XVIth century" is the title of a four-page pamphlet by W. Fiske, printed at Florence by the Le Monnier Press.

There is an article on "Le Biblioteche Scholastiche" by Cesare Rosa in the *Bibliofilo* for September-October.

The November *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* contains a long list of misprints and corrections in Hain's "Repertorium Bibliographicum," as well as the continuation of Dr. K. Steiff's series of articles "Beiträge zur ältesten Buchdruckergeschichte."

The November number of *Book-Lore* contains an article on "Shakespearian Crotchet-mongers," which the editor confesses that "we consider that we have positively wasted our time" in writing! We do not doubt that the editor of *Book-Lore* must frequently conclude his work with this feeling; but we are, nevertheless, surprised at the frankness of his admission that he considers anything he chooses to waste his

time in writing to be good enough for his readers to waste their time in reading. The same number has an account of our annual meeting, reproduced from the newspapers, with such misprints as "Mr. H. R. *P*edder" and "Mr. Zachnsdorf" by way of original features.

The life of Richard de Bury, contributed by Professor Creighton to the last volume of the Dictionary of National Biography, leaves a good deal to be desired in its bibliographical treatment of the subject. As the Bishop's chief claim to notice rests upon his book, one would have expected Professor Creighton to have described the editions of it *de visu*. That he has not done so is shown by several errors and omissions. In particular the statement that Mr. E. C. Thomas translated and edited the book "in 1885" has caused the writer of these lines some annoyance, as the book, though now nearly ready, has not yet been issued.

Correspondence.

Aberdeen Comparative Statistics.

The comparative table in the Aberdeen Public Library Committee's Report is very unsatisfactory. Eight of the ten particulars given, respecting the Nottingham Free Public *Lending* Libraries, are inaccurate. We have four Lending Libraries (not two); the number of Readers' Tickets in use, according to the last report, was 11,809 (not 11,910); the total number of volumes in stock was 30,490 (not 33,684); the total issues were 235,929 vols. (not 390,760); the turn-over was 7·73 (not 11·60); the stock of volumes in prose fiction as last reported was 15,034 (not 15,832); the issues in prose fiction last year were 191,532 (not 322,321); and the turn-over of prose fiction as compared with stock was 12·74 (not 20·36). J. Potter Briscoe.

Edinburgh's adoption of the Library Acts.

16, Bruntsfield Place, Edinburgh, 28 *Oct.* 1886.

Permit me, as the author of a Paper read some years ago before the Library Association, in which I explained how grievously we were defeated in 1881, to give you the joyful news that at last the Library Acts have been adopted by the citizens of Edinburgh. At a great meeting, held last night, the adoption of the Acts was carried by about 3000 to 20. The meeting was worthily presided over by one who has always favoured the Free Library movement, our Lord Provost, Sir Thomas Clark, Bart., a well known publisher. The resolution that the Acts be adopted was moved, in one of the best speeches I have ever heard, by the Rev. Dr. Walter Smith, as eminent as a poet as a clergyman. It was seconded by Mr. William McEwan, M.P., a local Maecenas. The resolution was opposed by two gentlemen, who were listened to with great impatience. Of course, Mr. Andrew Carnegie's princely promise, that he would give £50,000 if Edinburgh adopted the Library Acts, acted as the lever which carried the Acts triumphantly last night. Those of us who think that the Acts required no such lever to recommend their adoption, may have a tinge of regret in reflecting that, without the £50,000, Edinburgh would probably not have yielded. However, "all's well that ends well," and we are to get a Free Library, which is the great thing. Ralph Richardson.

NOTICE.

By order of the Council, after the end of the year, a charge of 6d. per sheet must be made for any missing sheets that may be required to make up the Liverpool Transactions.

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The Library Chronicle.

PROPOSALS FOR A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF NATIONAL HISTORY.[1]

By Henry R. Tedder, Librarian of the Athenæum.

No European State can point to a continuous history of such varied dignity as that of the United Kingdom, and few countries are able to show an historical literature at once so extensive and so important. From the *Saxon Chronicle* and *Domesday* down to the publications now being issued by the Master of the Rolls, we possess an almost unrivalled series of national documents, and we may well be proud of our national historians from Bæda to Stubbs. Voluminous as this literature has now become, it remains unanalysed and unarranged. The student has to be his own bibliographer, and grope his way through unclassified catalogues. In this respect we are still in arrear of almost every other civilized country. Foreign scholars like Meusel, Lenglet du Fresnoy, Ersch and Oettinger have industriously applied themselves to the entire range of historical study in a more or less complete manner. We possess only the much less comprehensive works of Wheare, Prideaux and Hearne in the same department. We have nothing like the valuable treatises of Potthast and Chevalier for the history of the middle ages, like the works of Dahlmann for German history, and Lelong and Franklin for that of France. Even Portugal has produced at least three good historical bibliographies within the last forty years. It is a slur upon English bibliography and upon English historical research that "our island story" told in so many ways, and by so many writers, should be yet without an adequate record of its literature. No more fitting body than this Association, representing as it does every library of importance in the kingdom, could be found to discuss the subject, and I will, therefore, proceed to place before you,

1st. A brief review of the general treatises on historical bibliography.

2nd. A sketch of the chief special bibliographies of the history of other countries.

3rd. A somewhat more detailed account of the various attempts made for our own historical literature.

4th and lastly. My own proposals.

I. The General Treatises.

It is beyond my purpose to give a complete view of all the general bibliographies of history, but it will be convenient to call attention to the most characteristic of them

[1] Read at the Plymouth Meeting of the Association, 1885.

Foremost comes the *Bibliotheca Historica* of B. G. Struve. The book was first published in 1705. It ran through many editions, was augmented by C. G. Buder in 1756, and was finally reformed and much increased by J. G. Meusel (Leipzig, 1782-98, 9 vols. 8vo). It is extremely valuable as far as it goes, but complete only as regards ancient history. Among modern nations we find France and Spain dealt with but not Great Britain. Next in order of importance comes the well-known work of N. Lenglet du Fresnoy, *Méthode pour étudier l'histoire, avec un catalogue des principaux historiens et des remarques sur la bonté de leurs ouvrages et sur le choix des meilleures éditions.* The best edition is that edited by Drouet, 1772, 15 vols. sm. 8vo. Both of these books are largely made up of literary criticism. To distinguish between the office of the critic and the bibliographer is a difficult one; I shall venture to submit my views on the subject later on.

An octavo volume by G. W. Zapf, *Literatur der alten und neuern Geschichte* was published at Lemgo in 1781. The others I have to mention are almost exclusively of a bibliographical character. Two more Germans furnished classified lists of works from the middle of the 18th century—during a period of about eighty years: the *Bibliotheca Historico-geographica*, 1750-1824, of T. C. F. Enslin (Berlin, 1825) a bookseller's list of German literature, and the *Literatur der Geschichte und deren Hülfswissenschaften*, 1750-1827, of J. S. Ersch (Leipzig, 1827) treating that of all countries. The laborious E. M. Oettinger published at Carlsruhe in 1841, an octavo volume which may still be consulted with fruit—*Historisches Archiv: archives historiques contenant une classification chronologique de* 17,000 *ouvrages pour servir à l'étude de l'histoire de tous les siècles et de toutes les nations.* Of similar scope is the *Bibliografia storica, ossia collezione delle migliori e più recenti opere di ogni nazione intorno ai principali periodi e personaggi della storia universale* (Milano, 1862, 8vo.) of Prof. G. Branca. A more limited range is taken in the *Repertorio Bibliografico delle opere stampate in Italia nel secolo XIX*, of Gius. Bertocci, in which history occupies the first two volumes (Roma, 1876-80.) Of considerable usefulness are the two volumes of W. Koner's *Repertorium* (Berlin, 1852-6), indexing all articles on history and the allied sciences which had appeared in every kind of German and foreign periodicals and transactions of societies from the year 1800 to 1850. A continuation brought down to the present time would be extremely valuable. The annual German booksellers' list, the *Bibliotheca Historica*, has been regularly issued for the last thirty-four years. The *Jahresberichte der Geschichtswissenschaft* is of an essentially scholarly and critical character. It was started under the auspices of the Historical Society of Berlin in 1880. The volume for that year dealing with the literature of 1878 was edited by Drs. F. Abraham, J. Hermann, and Edm. Meyer. The fifth part (for 1882) has been published. Two well-known treatises on the middle ages deserve special mention. The first is the *Bibliotheca historica medii ævi* of A. Potthast (Berlin 1862-8, 2 pts. 8vo.), which must be daily handled by every librarian who has to do with readers occupied in learned research. The other is the *Répertoire des sources historiques du moyen âge* of C. U. J. Chevalier. When completed, the latter will be in three parts, one devoted to persons, the second to localities and facts, and the third to literary works. Only the first (the biographical) portion has yet appeared (Paris, 1877-83, 8vo). It contains a very lengthy list of names (with the sources where information about them may be obtained) ranging from the time of the establishment of Christianity down to the year 1500. H. Oesterley's *Wegweiser durch die Literatur der Urkundensammlungen* (Berlin, 1885-6, 2 vols. 8vo.), is a guide for research among

archives and original documents. Finally we must not forget the various periodicals specially devoted to history, among which it is sufficient to mention Sybel's *Historische Zeitschrift*, the *Archivio Storico Italiano*, the *Revista Storica Italiana*, the *Revue Historique*, and the *English Historical Review*.

We will now consider the general works (original and translated) on the study of history which have appeared in English from the 17th century. The first we come to is the famous *Lectiones Hiemales* of Degory Wheare, first issued in Latin in 1623 and frequently reprinted. It was translated into English in 1694 under the title of *The method and order of reading both civil and ecclesiastical histories, in which the most excellent historians are reduced into the order in which they are successively to be read and the judgments of learned men concerning each of them subjoyned: to which is added an appendix concerning the historians of particular nations, ancient and modern, by Nicholas Horseman, with Mr. Dodwell's invitation to gentlemen to acquaint themselves with ancient history; made English and enlarged by Ed. Bohun.* J. C. Neu published at Tubingen in 1700 (and again in 1703, 1704, 1708, &c.) *Accessiones ad Deg. Wheari Relectiones Hiemales.* In 1648 Matthias Prideaux wrote *An easy and compendious introduction for the reading of all sorts of histories*, of which several editions were published. Prideaux devotes a considerable section to this country. The next was a translation of Rapin's short treatise by the voluminous hackwriter, Davies of Kidwelly, *Instructions for History, with a character of the most considerable historians, ancient and modern* (1680). Two opinions are worth quoting: "The Germans have vast projects upon their history, but nothing reduced within the natural order which an exact designe would require," (see p. 134); and "We find in most of the Spaniards a spirit of partiality for their country which renders them very suspicious." Another translation from the French was the little volume *Of the art both of writing and of judging of history; with reflections upon ancient as well as modern historians, by Father Le Moyne; translated* (London, 1695). Hearne's *Ductor Historicus* first came out in 1704. It contains a catalogue of authorities, among whom the English are not altogether omitted, although treated with more meagreness than might have been expected from the fame of the writer as an English antiquary and historian. This was followed by an English version of *The Universal Library of Historians* (1709) of L. Ellies Dupin. The work of Lenglet du Fresnoy, already referred to, was translated by Richard Rawlinson, and published at London (1728-30, 2 vols. 8vo.): *A new method of studying history, geography and chronology; with the whole apparatus necessary to form a perfect historian, and a catalogue of the chief historians of all nations.* The second volume is wholly occupied with the "catalogue;" forty pages being devoted to Great Britain. One of the best of the orthodox answers to Gibbon, *Letters on the prevalence of Christianity, with observations on a late history of the decline of the Roman Empire*, by East Apthorp (London, 1778, 8vo.) contains a useful and well arranged list of civil and ecclesiastical historians. There is also the *Chart of ancient historians, or a delineation of the periods of which they severally treat*, by the Rev. Ch. Taunton (1807). The most recent of these general works in English is the *Manual of historical literature, comprising brief descriptions of the most important histories in English, French and German, together with practical suggestions as to methods and courses of historical study* (1882), by Charles Kendall Adams, Professor of History in the University of Michigan. The selection is good, although perhaps too much space is given to literature of an elementary character. The notes might also be shortened with advantage, but Prof. Adams has compiled a useful volume.

II. The Historical Bibliographies of other Countries.

Before dealing with our own history, let us see what has been done by other countries. It would be unnecessary waste of time to refer to all the general national bibliographies and classified catalogues of libraries which have no particular reference to history; and the innumerable county and provincial bibliographies, like Boase and Courtney's *Bibliotheca Cornubiensis*, De Marsy's *Bibliographie Noyonnaise*, Walther's *Handbuch für Geschichte und Landeskunde von Hessen*, &c., are not sufficiently restricted to history to bring them within our plan. Neither is it necessary to chronicle every foreign historical bibliography, large and small, good, bad and indifferent. We will merely glance at the more noteworthy of them, for purposes of comparison with English efforts in the same direction.

France is the mother country of bibliography, and in this, as in almost every other department, she stands first and foremost. The first edition of the memorable *Bibliothèque historique de la France, contenant le catalogue de tous les ouvrages qui traitent de l'histoire de ce royaume*, of Father Jacques Lelong, librarian of the Oratory in Paris, was printed in 1719. This and his *Bibliotheca Sacra* (both of which have been vastly improved by later editors) will always keep the name of Lelong green in the memory of his brethren. A new and greatly enlarged issue of the *Bibliothèque historique* was published by Fevret de Fontette in 1768-78, 5 vols. folio. In spite of errors and omissions this immense work is still the most important of its class. It deals with ecclesiastical as well as political and social history, and describes MSS., prints, drawings, portraits, &c., as well as printed books. Here and there are brief but sufficient descriptive notes. The fifth volume includes excellent indexes. Paul Lacroix issued a couple of *Dissertations sur la Bibliothèque Historique* (1838), pointing out some inaccuracies and pleading for a new edition, and S. Lieutaud a *Liste de portraits français jusque l'année* 1775 (2e éd. 1847, 8vo.), which should be procured to complete the original work. The National Library of France is so rich as regards the literature of the country that the printed *Catalogue de l'histoire de France* of the Bibliothèque Nationale goes far to complete Lelong as regards printed sources. The first volume of this useful catalogue, which is minutely classified, was published in 1855. The titles of the books are given with commendable fulness and precision. Down to 1879 eleven handsome quartos had appeared. It was then felt that the expense of type was too great, and two Supplements (vols. 12 and 13) were issued in the same form but lithographed. Of more limited scope is the *Bibliographie générale des Gaules, répertoire systématique et alphabétique des ouvrages, mémoires et notices concernant l'histoire, la topographie, la religion et le langage de la Gaule jusqu'à la fin du Ve siècle* (1880, &c.) of C. E. Ruelle. The titles are in classified order, without notes. The work is still in progress. Alfred Franklin's *Sources de l'histoire de France: notices bibliographiques et analytiques des inventaires et des recueils de documents relatifs à l'histoire de France* (Paris, 1877, 8vo.), is devoted to printed documents and collections, and classified, with full indexes. The useful *Bibliographie historique et topographique de la France* (1845) of A. Girault de Saint-Fargeau, is almost exclusively topographical. The Société de l'Histoire de France furnishes annually in its *Annuaire-Bulletin* a review of the literature relating to the history of the country. This idea has been further developed by the Ministry of Public Instruction, which began in 1883 to supply an elaborate yearly report, entitled *Répertoire des travaux historiques contenant l'analyse*

des publications faites en France et à l'étranger sur l'histoire, les monuments, et la langue de la France pendant l'année 1882 (Paris, 1883, 8vo.), an invaluable help to students and bibliographers. A distinguished body of French scholars have undertaken the work, which is to be continued upon a scale of extraordinary completeness. The same department is also bringing out in parts a *Bibliographie des travaux historiques et archéologiques publiés par les sociétés savantes de la France* (1885, &c.).

Other literatures must be passed over in a very cursory manner. The recent *Geschichte der deutschen Historiographie* of Dr. F. X. von Wegele (München, 1885, 8vo.) is a valuable work of criticism. F. C. Dahlmann's *Quellenkunde der Deutschen Geschichte*, of which the fourth edition was edited by G. W. Waitz (Göttingen, 1875, 8vo.), is elaborately classified and indexed, and is full of information. C. J. Weber's *Litteratur der Deutschen Staatengeschichte*, (Leipzig, 1800) contains a general section as well as one specially devoted to Austria, Bohemia and Bavaria. Austrian history is also cared for in J. N. de Vogel's *Specimen bibliothecæ Germaniæ Austriacæ* (Viennæ, 1779-85, 2 vols. 8vo.), and C. Schmit von Tavera's *Bibliographie zur Geschichte des österreichischen Kaiserstaates* (Wien, 1858, &c.). P. A. F. Walther's *Repertorium* (Darmstadt, 1845, 8vo.) describes the publications of German historical societies, and should be supplemented by a work now being issued in parts—*Die wissenschaftlichen Vereine u. Gesellschaften Deutschlands im* 19. *Jahrh., von* J. Müller (Berlin, 1885-6, pts. 1-9, 4to.) The German provincial bibliographies are very numerous. Holland is fortunate in the possession of S. de Wind's *Bibliotheek der Nederlandsche Geschiedschrijvers* (1835) and the *Repertorium der Verhandelingen en Bydragen, betreffende de Geschiedenis des Vaterlands, in Mengelwerken en Tijdschriften tot op* 1860 *verschenen* (Leiden, 1863, 8vo.) by R. Fruin and others. There is also a book of P. A. Tiele on the pamphlets issued from 1500 to 1672 (Amst. 1858-60, 2 vols. 4to.), one by J. T. Bodel Nijenhuis on topographical engravings (Amst. 1862, 8vo.), and one by J. C. Hooykaas on the Dutch colonial literature from 1595 to 1865 (Amst. 1874, 8vo). For Italian history the *Bibliografia dei lavori pubblicati in Germania sulla storia d'Italia* (Berlin, 1863, 8vo.) of A. Reumont must be consulted. Portugal has the works of J. C. Pinto de Sousa (Lisbon, 1801), J. C. de Figaniere (1850) and M. Bernardes Branco (1879), and Spain the *Diccionario* (Madrid, 1855) of T. Muñoz y Romero. The *Bibliotheca historica sueco-gothica* of C. G. Warmholtz (Stockholm, 1782-1817, 15 vols. 8vo.) is a useful guide. Swiss history is well provided for in G. E. von Haller's *Bibliothek* (Bern, 1785-7), G. R. L. von Sinner's *Bibliographie*, 1786-1851, (1851), and E. F. von Muelinen's *Prodromus* (1874). The catalogues of the Imperial Library of St. Petersburg and the bibliographical works of Minzloff and Mejoff give everything that can be desired for Russia. The numerous bibliographies of other quarters of the globe compiled by Europeans do not call for special attention from our point of view.

III. The Literature of English Historical Bibliography.

Having thus briefly referred to the chief treatises of foreign writers who have laboured to arrange the historical literature of their respective countries, I will now offer a more detailed review of what has already been done for our national history before submitting any new proposals. As I have said before, it is not necessary to increase the extensive boundary I have put to my proposals by referring to general

bibliographies, and I will, therefore, pass by Leland, Bale, Pits, Tanner, as well as the modern writers on our national writers. One of the earliest attempts at a bibliography of English history was made by Francis Thin in his edition of Holinshed (1587). He gives as a reason, "Have I beene importuned by manie of my friends to knit up by the said whole historie [of Holinshed] a particular catalog of all such as have purposed in several histories of this realme as by the waie in the histories of other countries written of England and English matters." About the same period John Josseline or Josceleyn drew up a catalogue of British historians which remained unprinted until issued by Thomas Hearne in 1720 as an appendix to his Robert of Avesbury. It is a miscellaneous collection of notes, excerpts from Bale, &c. Thomas Dempster, the historian of the northern kingdom, published in 1622 *Apparatus ad historiam Scoticam* (Bonon. 1622, 4to.), which contains an account of Scottish chroniclers. For Irish historians one has the quarto of Sir James Ware, *De scriptoribus Hiberniæ libri duo* (Dublin, 1639). A revised and improved edition of *The whole Works of Sir James Ware concerning Ireland* by Walter Harris appeared at Dublin in 1739-46, 3 vols. folio. The work of G. J. Vossius, *De historicis latinis libri tres* (Lugd. Bat., 1627, 4to), includes Latin chroniclers of these islands. Sir Richard Baker gives "a catalogue of writers, both ancient and modern, out of whom this chronicle hath been collected," extending to 93 titles in the edition edited by Phillips (1674). The first edition of the well-known folio appeared in 1641. The useful *English Historical Library* of Bp. Wm. Nicolson first came out in 1696-7, followed by the *Scottish Library* in 1702, and the *Irish* in 1724. Bp. Nicolson's volumes are critical rather than bibliographical, but they contain much information as to the comparative value of historians. Hermann Dietrich Meibomius printed a Latin dissertation in 1702, specially dealing with the chief writers upon English history. Considering when it was published, the pamphlet (which only extends to 22 pages quarto) contains a good deal of information, although the severe Petzholdt says that it has little bibliographical interest. J. Berkenhout brought out in 1777 the first volume of *Biographia Literaria, containing the lives of English, Scottish and Irish authors.* Historians and antiquarians, arranged in chronological order, and extending from the 5th to the end of the 16th century, form the subject of the first sixty-four pages. The admirable *History of Great Britain* of Dr. Robert Henry (first edition 1771-93, the best 1823, 12 vols. 8vo., with Andrews' continuation, 2 vols.), contains incidental notices of historians. In 1793 Gibbon circulated an address recommending the publication of a new edition of the *Scriptores rerum Anglicarum.* This is of a general character and not in any manner bibliographical. The Catalogue (1815) of Sir R. C. Hoare's library professedly included history as well as topography, but was almost entirely restricted to the last class. A predecessor of Mr. Nicholson at the London Institution was Richard Thomson, from whom we have two small volumes, *Illustrations of the History of Great Britain* (Constable's Miscellany, 1828), which include "An introduction on the sources and materials of British history," extending to about a hundred pages. This is an interesting essay, and the best which had yet appeared. Machell Stace, a Westminster publisher, compiled and printed in 1829 what he styled *The British Historical Intelligencer, containing a catalogue of English, Scottish, Irish and Welsh historians, an account of authors quoted by Rapin, Tindal, Carte, Bissett and Adolphus in their histories of England, notices of books and publications, which from their tendency have caused State prosecutions or suppression, &c.* This suffi-

ciently describes the work, which is merely a loosely drawn-up catalogue. The laborious Francisque-Michel printed in 1837 *Bibliothèque Anglo-Saxonne*, a bibliography of Anglo-Saxon history, language and literature. We now come to a work by an honoured member of our Association. Over forty years ago the Rev. W. D. Macray, while a very young man, compiled his useful *Manual of British historians to* A.D. 1600, *containing a chronological account of the early chroniclers and monkish writers, their printed works and unpublished MSS.* (Pickering, 1845). Mr. Macray is strict in his definition of a British historian. He will have nothing to do with Froissart, Titus Forojuliensis and Polydore Vergil, because they are foreigners, nor with John Twyne's *Commentarii de rebus Albionicis*, because it is not sufficiently historical. The next labourer in the field is a German. Friedrich W. Ebeling produced in 1852 *England's Geschichtsschreiber, von der frühesten bis auf unsere Zeit*, followed by a supplement, *England's historische Literatur seit den letzten fünf Jahren.* These works are neither complete nor accurate. An American student, Eugene Lawrence, published at New York in 1855, two small volumes, *The lives of the British historians*, ranging from Gildas to Charles James Fox, a series of essays without any bibliographical pretensions. The *Descriptive catalogue* of Sir T. D. Hardy, although specially devoted to manuscript sources, includes an alphabetical list of all printed materials down to the accession of Henry VIII. The late John Richard Green gave brief references to authorities at the commencement of each chapter in his *Short History of the English People* (1874), a system which he partly carried out to a further extent in his larger *History* (1877-80, 4 vols. 8vo). The Bibliothèque Nationale of Paris issued in 1878 a small number (only 80 copies) of a section of their great catalogue, being the *Catalogue de l'histoire de la Grande-Bretagne*, a lithographed quarto including no less than 12,489 entries in classified order. A supplement and a general index are promised. This work, which is extremely difficult to obtain, is the most complete bibliography of our national history which has yet appeared. We now come to the most scientific and critical work on the subject, *Introduction to the study of English History*, by Samuel R. Gardiner and J. Bass Mullinger (1882). The first part contains an "Introduction to English History" by Gardiner aud the second part "Authorities" by Mullinger. The latter section is in the form of a running commentary. The titles are usually given in foot notes. Contemporary sources of information for each period are distinguished from those of a later date. English history proper is more especially considered and only that of the other kingdoms incidentally. It does not include the present century and only professes to describe the most important books. Obsolete histories like those of Oldmixon, Barnard, Hume, Smollett and Sharon Turner have no place. The Society for the Propagation of Christian Knowledge are bringing out an interesting series devoted to the Early Chroniclers of Europe, of which volumes on Italy, France and this country have been published. That relating to England has been written by a very competent authority, Mr. James Gairdner. The little book does not pretend to be exhaustive, but selections are given of the most characteristic writers and those most adapted for quotation. These qualities, rather than intrinsic merit as authorities, have chiefly decided the choice. Flaherty's *Annals of England* (1876) contains lists of writers and chroniclers, collections, society and governmental publications, record commissions, reports, &c. There are brief notes. The most recent work I have to mention is Low and Pulling's *Dictionary of English History* (1884), which has an article on

"Authorities," condensed by Mr. J. Bass Mullinger from his larger treatise, as well as brief articles on Scotland, Ireland and Wales. A lecture by Mr. O. Airy, *Books on English History* (Birm. Ref. Lib. Lect.) with lists of books, deserves to be noticed.

The history of the British colonies must not be forgotten. Canada, the Cape and India have bibliographies whence matter may be gleaned. The Free Public Library of Sydney published in 1878 a list of works on New South Wales, edited by R. C. Walker, and there is also G. B. Barton's *Literature in New South Wales* (1866). Ternaux-Compans, Rich, Sabin, Harrisse, Stevens and others have devoted themselves to American literature in general; H. O. Ludewig (1846) and F. B. Perkins (1876) are authorities for local history of the United States, and T. W. Field (1873) for the North American Indians. Perhaps the work which most specially refers to our inquiries is J. Winsor's *Reader's Handbook of the American Revolution*, 1761-83 (1880).

This does not profess to be a complete account of every attempt to draw up more or less complete lists of books on English history, but it is believed that nothing of importance has been omitted. No reference has been made to books like those of Upcott and Anderson, who treat of topographical literature; or that of Moule, who is concerned with heraldry, genealogy, and kindred matters.

IV. Proposals for a New Bibliography of National History.

I have now placed before you a short description of the chief general and foreign special historical bibliographies, as well as a more detailed account of those relating to English history. We have seen how much has been done by other countries and how inadequate have been the feeble efforts made by ourselves.

A bibliography of our national history should be drawn up on the most comprehensive scale consistent with practical attainment, and should include the history of England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland from the earliest to recent times. The colonies, India and foreign possessions would have to be treated from the so-called "imperial" point of view, so as to avoid a mass of literature purely of local interest. This is particularly the case with countries which, like Canada and India, possess whole libraries of books connected with affairs which happened before the British dominion. In the same way the United States would seldom concern us after the Declaration of Independence. Having thus roughly defined the area to be covered, I will at once say that I propose to include not merely a selection of the best works, but all the books, pamphlets, pieces in collections, and articles in periodicals and transactions of societies, connected with the subject. To be as complete as the *Bibliothèque Historique* of Lelong one should include MSS., prints, portraits and drawings, and the enormously increased size of the work by taking this course is the only excuse I have to offer for their omission. With regard to unprinted authorities, we already possess Sir T. D. Hardy's invaluable, but unfinished, *Descriptive catalogue of materials relating to the history of Great Britain and Ireland:* Roman period to A.D. 1327 (1862-71, 4 vols. 8vo.), and the Reports of the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts. Some day or other we may hope for a new edition of H. Bromley's *Catalogue of Engraved British Portraits* (1793).

To define exactly what is, and what is not history, is exceedingly difficult; but broadly speaking, the *Bibliography* should contain everything printed relating to national and general, as opposed to local or special history. It is impossible to omit the early history of the law. The various inquisitions grouped under the title of *Domesday* and

other ancient records of a more personal character also come within our province. Social and ecclesiastical history should be included, as well as travels in this country by natives and foreigners, illustrating social manners and customs. Lives of individuals of no public importance should be omitted, as well as archæology, numismatics, heraldry and genealogy, except when the books on these subjects have a special bearing upon general affairs. Topography, the history of literature, science, and the fine and useful arts, must also be treated with a sparing hand. In dealing with periods of great political activity like the Civil War, which have produced an immense cloud of pamphlets, one would have to throw aside those merely of a controversial and personal bearing. The contributions of foreigners would be especially sought for, as well as articles in periodicals, transactions, and collective essays. The work should be systematically classified with complete alphabetical indexes. The titles should invariably be taken from the books, &c., themselves whenever possible. I am greatly in favour of giving full titles always, but some latitude must be allowed in order not to extend inconveniently the size of the work. I should also like to see mentioned every edition of a frequently printed book, but in the same way it might be found necessary only to describe the first and the last or best state of such books. Further completeness would be attained by indicating the number of pages in books in single volumes. I am strongly of opinion that the work to be of practical value should be accompanied with notes. A mere transcript of the title seldom gives an exact idea of the scope of a book, and when one endeavours to furnish a complete bibliography and not only a selection of the most meritorious literature, some guide to the investigator appears to be absolutely necessary. This view is supported by the fact that such information has been thought desirable by Lelong, Potthast, Mullinger, Flaherty, and many others in this field. Advice as to editions, editors, and points of bibliographical obscurity should be supplied, and to this I would add now and then estimates of a critical nature. All these observations would be very brief and restricted to matters not of ordinary knowledge. Commonplaces on well-known books and authors would be obviously out of place. I do not consider that the work of the bibliographer is at an end when he has copied a title page and arranged it with others in some kind of order. That is the labour of a mere cataloguer. De Bure, Brunet, Lowndes, Graesse, and many other distinguished bibliographers who might be mentioned, have not limited themselves to such a narrow view of their duty. There are few special bibliographies of greater value than the unfinished *Bibliographie des Beaux-Arts* of Vinet, whose notes contain a store of hitherto unrecorded facts. The only cogent argument against notes is that they would unduly increase the size of the *Bibliography*, but they must be used sparingly and not consist of trite observations to be found in every book of reference. Should the proposed work ever be attempted, I sincerely hope that such notes as I here suggest may form a special feature in its plan.

I have only been able to give a general idea of the lines upon which the *Bibliography* should be based. To enter into full particulars would occupy too much time; but I have said enough to show that it would be an extremely extensive and laborious undertaking. The preparation would involve a very considerable expenditure of time and money, and the work could only be satisfactorily accomplished with the active sympathy of the custodians of our great public libraries. The main part of the labour would have to be done from the shelves of the British Museum, supplemented by the Bodleian and Cambridge University Libraries. Trinity College, Dublin, would supply

deficiencies in Irish, and the Advocates' Library, in Scottish history. The Bibliothèque Nationale, and the Royal Library at Berlin, as well as other public and private collections, would also have to be ransacked. Specific letters attached to each title, such as B for British Museum, O for Bodleian, C for Cambridge University, D for Trinity College, Dublin, and E for the Advocates' Library, Edinburgh, might be used to indicate what books were to be found in each or any of these libraries, which would thus be furnished with a joint-catalogue of their works on English history. This would be in return for their active collaboration. Were they unable to consent to this course, and the labour fell upon individual effort, I respectfully submit that it might be considered to come within the province of the series of publications issued by the Master of the Rolls, who might be asked favourably to consider the proposal. The actual cost of the completion, at a low estimate of remuneration for time and the expenditure for necessary assistance, I reckon at about £500. It could not be finished under three or four years, and would extend to perhaps a couple of volumes equal to the *Calendars of State Papers*.

I have not thought it necessary to enlarge upon the pressing necessity of a full record of our rich and important historical literature. This may be taken for granted, and the immensity of the task ought not to deter the attempt. England must no longer lag behind every other country in this department of bibliographical research, and a vigorous effort should be made to possess, within a reasonable period, an adequate Bibliography of National History.

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES FROM A BOOKSELLER'S POINT OF VIEW.[1]

By William Downing.

In coming before this Association, as a layman, venturing to occupy some moments of your valuable time in the discussion of a subject which is not perhaps quite within the scope of your inquiries, I am conscious of a certain feeling of intrusiveness—and certainly of temerity—in thus presuming to speak to some extent in the name of the class to which I belong, as to the views we hold in reference to the Free Library movement.

I believe it is the prevalent idea in the minds of many people that the establishment of a Free Library in a town spells ruin, or something like it, to the local bookseller, and this notion has been encouraged by a certain class of booksellers, whose want of enterprise has more to do with their non-success in business than any competition on the part of Free Libraries. No doubt in some directions the trade of the bookseller has suffered, but on the other hand it has benefited also by the establishment of the great fountains of knowledge of which your members are the representatives; and I propose in this brief Paper to point out the various ways in which the Free Libraries have influenced our trade, and more particularly that department of it to which I myself belong.

Before the establishment of Free Libraries, the great majority of the people read scarcely anything besides the half dozen standard books which formed the home library,

[1] Read at the Plymouth Meeting of the Association in 1885.

and such others as they could borrow from their friends and acquaintances. They were seldom book *buyers*, for they knew little or nothing of the world of literature, scarcely even the great writers of our own time; and the desire to obtain books could scarcely exist without some knowledge of the things to be obtained. But with the opening of the Free Libraries came the revelation of a new world. The people began to be acquainted not merely with Mr. Pickwick and David Copperfield, with Colonel Newcome and Adam Bede, but with the works of Carlyle and Macaulay, of Emerson and De Quincey, Froude and Bancroft, Prescott and Grote, and with the great heritage of English literature of past ages. *Before*, they scarcely thought of the *authors* of books—a "book was a book, although there might be nothing in it"—but *now* they began to enquire for books by the names of their respective authors, and having read one or two, thirsted for more.

It might seem that, the people having now free access to whatever was worthiest in English literature, the bookseller's occupation was gone, but so far from this being the case, in certain directions it was only just begun; for with many of the readers at the Free Libraries the acquaintance thus formed with good books ripened into friendship, and they desired to have them for their own. I could mention many examples of this which have come under my own knowledge, and I can look round on many worthy citizens of my own town, known to those around me as men of ripe learning and culture, who owe all to their acquaintance with literature in the first instance through the Free Libraries, and subsequently through that closer friendship which comes of possession and frequent intercourse with the productions of the greatest minds. And thus has arisen—I can answer for this as regards my own town—a new class of collectors, if I may so style them, who buy—not curiosities, not rare or choice editions, but good readable copies of good books, which they have met with in the first instance at the Free Library.

But of course the chief direction in which the Free Library movement has acted beneficially on the bookseller is in the formation of *large Reference Libraries*, 'the vast treasure houses,' as Elihu Burritt has said (speaking of our own in Birmingham), 'of every department of human learning.' 'Here,' he observed, 'a poor but earnest learner may explore a volume which cost more than a small farm in Illinois, and transfer the whole harvest of its wisdom into his own stock of knowledge.'

And, of course, what is true of the Birmingham Reference Library is equally true of many others throughout the world; and whereas before the foundation of these storehouses, only a very limited number of purchasers could be found who could afford to expend the purchase money of the small farm in obtaining the great book—or who could find room for it when purchased—there are now in the Public Reference Libraries, hundreds of competitors for these choice and valuable works, not merely at home, but in the United States, and in our Colonies all over the world.

At the same time something must be set against this, in that the Reference Library has almost closed the private channels for the sale of certain books. I have no doubt that the experience of the publishers of such works as the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, the *Annual Register*, and other expensive and somewhat cumbrous sets, would be that where five and twenty years ago they had ten private purchasers, they do not now meet with more than one. The book-buyer feels that with the possession of these works by the town he has no further need to cumber his own shelves with them, inasmuch as he can at all times have easy access to them. And this

again acts upon the bookseller, for if the book-buyer ceases to acquire for himself these great works of reference, he has, on the other hand, more money to spare for the purchase of other books; and not infrequently he sets about forming a special collection of some kind. This is a hobby which has been very much fostered by the Libraries themselves, for there are few among the great Free Libraries which do not possess, or lay themselves out to acquire, special collections. In Birmingham we have, as all the world knows, a noble Shakespearian collection and a priceless collection of books relating to Birmingham and Warwickshire, both of which have risen greater, if possible, out of the ashes of those which perished in the calamitous fire of January, 1879. I use the word priceless, in reference to our local collection, advisedly, for one whose name is a household word in Birmingham, and whose fame and worth are known far beyond the limits of that great town, has spent the greater portion of his life in collecting those local ephemera which have now become so rare that two or three lives could not again bring together such a collection as that now deposited in the Birmingham Reference Library.

And I would here take the opportunity of expressing the deep debt of gratitude which I, in common with my brother booksellers in the town, feel towards that distinguished member of this Association, whose absence from our present gathering we so deeply deplore. What was said the other day in reference to the late editor of *Notes and Queries*, namely, that when anyone was in a literary difficulty the answer was 'Oh, ask Mr. Thoms,' is locally true as to the Birmingham booksellers, for with us, to meet a difficulty—bibliographical or antiquarian—is immediately to resolve 'I'll ask Mr. Timmins.'

The Cervantes library is also, I believe, being slowly reformed, and several smaller collections have since accrued, by the generosity of our townsmen, and by the indefatigable zeal of our chief librarian, Mr. J. D. Mullins, to whose efforts we owe that remarkable assemblage of books relating to the subject of bibliography, all of which are ably described in a special catalogue issued a few months ago. Other Public Reference Libraries have equally interesting special collections. The Mitchell Library, Glasgow, collects editions of Burns and other Scottish poets, and nearly all the Public Libraries are endeavouring to form *local* collections.[1]

These movements have led to an increasing scarcity, and consequent increase in price, of many of the items forming such collections, as special editions of various authors, locally printed books, and *Ana*, which of themselves formerly bore no special value. In the same way, many other books not included in the special collections have increased in value, owing to the fact that in all great Reference Libraries, and in many which do not venture to compete in size and extent with Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, and other libraries of world-wide fame, the scarcity and high prices fetched by certain books form no barrier to their acquisition; and once acquired, they are locked up for ever. The knowledge of this fact has excited the keenest competition among private collectors, and it is only necessary now, in cataloguing rare books, to

[1] Might I suggest that some member of the Association—aided of course by the Librarians themselves—should compile a list of the Special Collections formed, or in course of formation, in the various Public Libraries of Great Britain? This would serve many useful purposes; it would be a great help to all engaged in literary research, and it would further the ends of the collectors themselves in obtaining prompt reports of books and pamphlets to complete collections, by enabling the bookseller to co-operate with them in their endeavours.

refer to the possibility of their being locked up in some public library, to bring up with all speed an eager purchaser.

The reference to catalogues brings to mind another great service which the Free Libraries have rendered to the bookseller, namely, in the increased attention to *exactness* of description, which the increase of purchasers among the librarians of Free Public Libraries has brought about. I can speak feelingly on this subject, for in our own Free Library, which has always accorded a fair share of its patronage to the numerous booksellers in the town—and Birmingham has been called the 'Paradise of booksellers,'—no mercy is shown to the inaccurate dealer; if the book is unfairly or inaccurately described, it inevitably becomes '*cold pig*'—in other words it is returned on his hands.

This has taught us to observe the strictest accuracy in our descriptions of books; for what exists in the Birmingham Libraries exists also in those of other towns—and we number most of them among our customers,—and I cannot but think that this rigid attitude towards us on the part of the learned and accurate bibliographers to whom the guardianship of these great institutions is entrusted, has done a great deal towards improving the race of booksellers.

And may I, as a bookseller, be permitted to express my admiration of the great fairness which exists among the library authorities towards us, and the purity, beyond the faintest tinge of suspicion, with which they administer, if I may so express it, the vast amount of patronage with which they are entrusted. For my own town I may say —and booksellers all over the kingdom will echo the sentiment—there seems not to be the faintest idea in the mind of the Chief Librarian that he has any favours to bestow upon the bookseller, but simply that he has to obtain the best copy in the best possible condition, at the lowest cost, wheresoever it is to be obtained. And if Birmingham be a paradise of booksellers, it is undoubtedly also a paradise of librarians, for there are few districts which possess so many well stocked Free Libraries as our own; with the great Reference Library and Central Lending Department in Ratcliff Place, the four branch Lending Libraries, and the excellent Reference and Lending Libraries at Aston, Handsworth, Smethwick, and West Bromwich, in our own immediate neighbourhood; while there have gone forth from the Birmingham Libraries men who have received their library training under Mr. Mullins, to become librarians of Public Libraries in all parts of the kingdom.

Perhaps this condition of affairs has had something to do with the extension of the bookselling trade, and the increase of booksellers in Birmingham; for within my own memory there were but three booksellers,—collectors of books for sale, that is, not merely orderers of books from the publisher's warehouse—while there are now more than I can easily reckon up.

And I feel sure that the increase which we may confidently expect and hope for in the number of free libraries in this country and in others, will only serve to increase in still greater ratio the number of those whose acquaintance with books, through the medium of the Public Libraries, will ripen into that friendship, which rests satisfied with nothing short of personal possession, and our services as ministers to the needs of the Free Libraries themselves will be in still greater demand: and thus shall we, and the Institutions which have called into being this honourable Association, go on—

"———like brother and brother,
". . . hand in hand, not one before another."

OBITUARY: SIR THOMAS BAKER.

By W. R. Credland.

The death of Sir Thomas Baker, which took place on April 17th, 1886, removed one of the most considerable personages amongst those who have figured in the recent municipal annals of Manchester. For upwards of a quarter of a century Sir Thomas Baker had devoted much time and energy to the work of the City Council. He had served alternately on nearly all its more important committees, and was at the time of his death a member of the Free Libraries, Watch, Art Gallery, and Town Hall Committees. His voice was a power in the Council Chamber. His speaking was clear, cold and decisive. Minutely anxious as to facts, he was exact and exacting in their use. Caustic at times, at times bitter, he did not seem to care whether he made friends or enemies, provided only that his words swayed the majority in favour of the view he advocated. One of his most important and characteristic speeches was delivered by him on the Thirlmere water scheme only a short time before his death. His character, partly natural, partly formed by his legal training, was strong, imperative, wilful. Yet he was by no means unamenable to reason, and was possessed of a profound sense of justice and right. He would never take a mean advantage, and was always an honest and straightforward opponent. His mental endowments were above the ordinary average, and they had been expanded and strengthened by careful culture. Gifted with wide sympathies, he took interest in many things, from entomology in his early youth to astronomy and botany in his old age. He was a lover of books and of reading, though he wrote little, his only books being brief *Memorials of Oldham's Tenement at Crumpsall*, published in quarto form in 1864, a memoir of his brother, Dr. Charles Baker, reprinted for private circulation from the *Annals of the Deaf and Dumb*, and the more extended *Memorials of Cross Street Chapel*,[1] published in 1884. Yet he was a keen critic, and possessed a wide and valuable knowledge of English literature. His literary tastes lay principally in the direction of genealogy, biography, and topography. He was well acquainted with local history, and accumulated a large collection of books relating thereto. Over 500 volumes of these books, used principally in the compilation of the *Memorials of a Dissenting Chapel*, were afterwards presented by him to the Free Reference Library. His library was principally interesting for its collections relating to the Rebellions of 1715 and 1745, its "Fables," and its "Bewick" literature. He was a Liberal in politics, but he never took any active part in political controversy, and strongly deprecated the introduction of party spirit into the Council. He was, however, interested in the Woman's Suffrage Movement, and occasionally presided at meetings in favour of that object.

Thomas Baker was born in Birmingham on May 16, 1810. He was the third son in a somewhat numerous family, and received his early education at the Grammar School of King Edward VI. He continued his studies at Manchester New College, York, where he remained for five years. It was intended that he should enter the Unitarian ministry, and for six months he was in charge of a congregation, but this profession being distasteful to him he came to Manchester, where he became articled

[1] Memorials of a Dissenting Chapel, its Foundation and Worthies; being a sketch of the rise of Nonconformity in Manchester and of the Erection of the Chapel in Cross Street, with notices of its Ministers and Trustees.

to a solicitor, and was himself admitted a solicitor in Trinity term, 1840. His sense of justice led him afterwards to repay to the trustees the cost of an education (about £220.) received as a stepping-stone to a ministerial career. He soon acquired a good practice, and began to take part in several public matters. He became secretary—for one year—to the Athenæum, and remained a member for forty years afterwards; chairman of the committee of the Law Association; a guardian of the poor, and a busy worker in other honorary directions. During his connection with the Law Association several reforms in local law procedure were brought about by his instrumentality. These public engagements naturally led to the taking of interest in municipal affairs, and in 1860 he was elected a member of the City Council, as a representative of St. Anne's Ward.

Amongst the first committees upon which he was placed to serve was that of the Public Free Libraries. This, though apparently a small matter, gave colour to his whole after-career. Being himself a cultured man, knowing well and appreciating keenly the value of education and knowledge, knowing also from his experience as a guardian the misery and degradation of the poor, he saw in these free libraries one means of alleviating the misfortunes of thousands of his fellowmen, of cheering them, of raising their mental and moral calibre, and of opening out to them paths which if followed must surely lead to improvement in their worldly condition. This was a field of labour worthy of the best efforts of a worthy man, and Mr. Baker threw himself into it with his usual energy. In 1864 he was elected Chairman of the Committee. At that time the free libraries, though they had been established more than twelve years, were really in their infancy. Progress had certainly been made in the provision of books and reading-rooms, and in this latter direction the work was vigorously pushed forward by the establishment under his supervision of other branch libraries in various parts of the city. These free libraries now number seven, a central reference library and six branch libraries. They possess in the aggregate 180,000 volumes, and the visits paid to them by the public may be counted by millions yearly. Their books penetrate into homes where, but for these libraries, literature, with all its possibilities of comfort and elevation, would probably be unknown. Into this work Mr. Baker threw his whole heart, and he was ever ready to adopt any suggestion which would make these institutions more popular or more efficient. Thus came about the transference of the Old Town Hall to the committee, the opening of the libraries on Sundays, and the provision of reading rooms for boys. In the same spirit he also accepted a Vice-Presidentship of the Library Association of the United Kingdom, and presided at the Manchester Meeting of that Association in 1879, when, besides his opening address, he read a Paper on "The Employment of Women as Assistants in Free Libraries." Manchester has in this matter of free libraries led the van in one of the most purely philanthropic, useful, and enlightened movements of the present time, and the name of Sir Thomas Baker will ever be indissolubly connected with that movement. It may be safely assumed that whatever honour posterity may accord him, the better portion will be given in recognition of his disinterested labours for the benefit of his fellow men whilst acting as chairman of the Manchester Free Libraries Committee.

In 1875 he became an alderman, and in 1879 the mayoralty was offered to him, but declined on account of ill-health. In the following year the offer being renewed it was accepted, and his first year of service (1880-81) as Mayor of Manchester was

entered upon. Perhaps the most interesting and certainly the most characteristic event of the first year of his mayoralty was the banquet he gave in honour of Harrison Ainsworth. In honouring Ainsworth as a distinguished Lancashire representative of literature he gave fitting expression to his own love and regard for books and their authors, and emphasized it by bringing together to meet the "Scott of Lancashire" an imposing gathering of local literary men and women. The veteran novelist, who died in the following year, was much moved by the reception he received, and afterwards dedicated his last work, *Stanley Brereton*, to Mr. Baker. An interesting memento of the occasion was provided by the Mayor in the form of a small volume containing a portrait of Ainsworth, a memoir, a list of his works, and facsimiles of some of the illustrations to them. A copy of this tasteful little book is preserved in the Reference Library. A few months later the Duke of Edinburgh and Prince Leopold visited Manchester for the purpose of advocating the establishment of a national institution for the advancement of musical culture. During their stay they became the guests of the Mayor, and he spared no effort in promoting the object they had in view.

The second year of his mayoralty (1881-82), though full of ordinary business, was comparatively uneventful, but the conscientious care and marked ability he displayed in dealing with the most trifling, as well as the most serious, matters earned for him the hearty appreciation of the Council and the citizens.

In 1883 the honour of knighthood was conferred upon him by the Queen. This distinction, so well won and so well deserved, would have been to him a source of much gratification, had it not been for the great blow he had received in December of the previous year by the death of his wife. Being without children, she had been all in all to him for nearly forty years, and he never ceased to mourn her loss. Probably to distract his mind, he still continued to take an active part in municipal duties, and the transference of the Royal Institution to the Corporation, the incorporation of the out-townships with the city, and the printing of the Court Leet Records, all received a large share of his attention. This latter work was truly a labour of love, for in it his antiquarian tastes were strongly gratified, and his interest in local history pleasingly revived. He died in his seventy-sixth year, literally in harness, full of years and of honours; and many a generation will pass away before the remembrance of his jealousy for the welfare and the renown of Manchester and his zeal in her service shall have faded from the minds of men.

SOME NEW BOOKS.[1]

Not the least among the difficulties besetting the librarian in the selection of books must be the duty of doing justice to recent poetry and to the works of those writers of verse who have yet to achieve a name. The author of 'Lays and Legends' has

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[1] Lays and Legends. By E. Nesbit. London: Longmans, Green & Co., 1886. 8vo, pp. viii. 197. Price 5s.

The Dawn of British Trade to the East Indies as recorded in the Court Minutes of the East India Company, 1599-1603. Now first printed from the original manuscript by Henry Stevens of Vermont. London: Henry Stevens & Son, 1886. 8vo, pp. xxiv. 331. Price 21s.

American Statute Law. An Analytical and Compared Digest of the Constitutions and Civil Public Statutes of all the States and Territories relating to Persons and Property. By Frederic J. Stimson. Boston: Soule, 1886. la. 8vo, pp. xl. 779. Price 30s.

already published some remarkable poems, and those of our readers who have read any of them in the magazines will have no doubt that this collection is a book that should find a place in every library professing to represent our current literature. Such poems as 'Tekel,' 'Absolution,' 'The Moat House' and 'The Dead to the Living' abundantly prove that their writer possesses dramatic instinct, subtle imagination, vigorous expression and a genuine gift of melody.

Amongst the numerous undertakings left more or less unfinished by the death of our friend and colleague, Henry Stevens, was the present reproduction of the original minute-book of the East India Company, to which he proposed to add what would doubtless have been a most valuable and interesting introduction. Sir George Birdwood has written a few pages by way of introduction to the volume, which is of great interest for the light it throws upon the beginnings of English enterprise and commerce in the East, and of an early expedition in search of a North-west Passage to the realms of far Cathay. Incidental notices of the 'Mayflowre,' and of Hakluyt and John Waymouth, gave these minutes a peculiar interest for Mr. Stevens. The printing, with all the peculiarities of spelling and contractions, has been most carefully and beautifully executed by the Chiswick Press, and Mr. Henry N. Stevens has prepared a most careful and elaborate index, extending to 47 pages of double columns and small type. The work is most charmingly produced, and as the edition consists of 550 copies only (50 being on large paper), it should speedily be exhausted.

Under the title of 'American Statute Law,' Mr. Stimson has published a very full and painstaking digest of the laws of the several states and territories of the United States, including 'five-and-forty free commonwealths.' As each of these states retains the power of legislation in all matters of public and private law, subject only to the federal Constitution, it can readily be imagined that we have in this compact and clearly arranged volume the essence of quite a considerable library of codes and statutes. The editor has followed the classification of Professor Holland, and the present volume includes an account of the State Constitutions and Private Civil Law. Another volume will treat of Public and Criminal Law and Procedure. It must not be supposed that this is a book possessing interest only for the American lawyer; on the contrary, it is a work of the greatest interest to the student of comparative jurisprudence and politics, as well as to the legislator; and every one interested in current political or social questions will find much that will be of value to him. He will be able to see in these pages how the various States have dealt with such questions as those of women's rights, the civil rights of coloured persons and Chinamen, corners and the sale of "futures," the homestead law, the grounds of divorce, and a thousand and one other matters that are of interest quite as much to the intelligent layman as to the professional lawyer. Thus we notice, on turning up the head of Libraries, that the constitutions of two States provide that there shall be at least one public library in each township, viz. Indiana and Michigan; and that by the constitution of Iowa the State school fund may be applied to the establishment of libraries. A work of such general interest should be included in every collection of books of any pretensions. The English agent for the book is Mr. Henry N. Stevens.

The Library Chronicle.

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is issued on the 15th of the month, and communications, books for review, etc., intended for the forthcoming number should be addressed, not later than the 10th of the month, to the Hon. Editor,* ERNEST C. THOMAS, *care of Messrs. J. Davy & Sons, 137, Long Acre, W.C.*

The attention of librarians and library committees, of publishers and booksellers, is called to the advantages of the CHRONICLE *(which represents at least 300 libraries) as an advertising medium. Advertisements of Library Vacancies, and of Books Wanted, or Duplicates for Sale or Exchange by Libraries are inserted at low rates.*

Members of the Library Association whose subscription for the current year has been paid are entitled to receive the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association cannot be responsible for the views expressed by the contributors to the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association.

DECEMBER MONTHLY MEETING.

The December Monthly Meeting was held at Gray's Inn Library on Friday, December 3rd, at 7.30 p.m., Mr. H. R. Tedder in the chair.

Mr. S. W. Silver was elected a member, and Mr. W. R. S. Ralston was proposed for election.

The Hon. Sec. read a Paper by Mr. A. W. Robertson on "The Arrangements for Periodicals at the Aberdeen Free Public Library." After a discussion a vote of thanks was passed to the writer of the Paper, and the meeting adjourned.

Mr. Alderman G. J. Johnson, Chairman of the Free Libraries Committee, Birmingham, has been elected President of the Library Association.

Library Notes and News.

BRADFORD.—A debate took place in the Town Council of Bradford on the 14th December, on the question of opening the Art Museum, Reference Library and Reading Rooms on Sundays, at the conclusion of which resolutions were passed that the rooms named be opened during the next six months on Sundays, from 2.30 to 5.30 p.m., and on Good Friday and Christmas Day from 2.0 to 8.0 p.m.

EDINBURGH.—On Saturday, December 18, the Senatus of the Edinburgh University elected Mr. Hugh A. Webster to the Librarianship, vacated by the death of Mr. Small. Mr. Webster is a sub-editor of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, and has a good knowledge of the Dutch language, which has aided him in the geographical articles which he has contributed. There were seventy candidates, and we understand that Mr. J. Y. W. MacAlister tied with another candidate for the second place.

GOSPORT.—Gosport will celebrate the Queen's Jubilee by the opening of a Free Public Library. As the penny rate will only realize about £250, the income of the library will be increased by a gift of £100 from ten of the leading tradesmen of the place.

HUCKNALL TORKARD.—Mr. Bromley, architect to the Nottingham School Board, has been instructed to design a Free Public Library building for Hucknall Torkard. We are glad to learn that, before commencing the work, he consulted Mr. Briscoe of Nottingham, and visited several free public libraries.

LEIGH, LANCASHIRE.—The Leigh Literary Society has established a "Reference Library" of an excellent type, containing, at present, about 2000 volumes, including some valuable gifts from Lord Lilford, Mr. Josiah Rose and others. The Committee were aided in their work of selection by Mr. C. Madeley of the Warrington Museum and Library. It is a condition in the trust deed that the library shall be handed over to the local authority whenever the Public Libraries Acts shall be adopted by the town.

LLANGOLLEN.—For the purpose of establishing a Public Library for Llangollen Town, a Concert was held on October 19. Sir Theodore Martin presided, and gave an excellent address on Reading.

LONDON: FULHAM.—The result of the poll in the Parish of Fulham, on the Adoption of the Libraries Acts, was, for the Acts 3,788, against 1,324—a majority of nearly three to one. It is proposed to levy only a halfpenny rate.

LONDON: LAMBETH.—As the result of a vigorous effort on the part of a Committee of influential gentlemen, the Public Libraries Acts have been adopted in this parish. A poll of the ratepayers was taken on the 14th December, when the voting was as follows: For the adoption of the Acts 15,292, against it 12,481—majority in favour, 2,811. It is proposed to establish eight or nine lending libraries and reading rooms in as many wards or districts of the parish. A series of public meetings preceded the taking of the poll, at one of which, held at the Lambeth Baths on 3rd December, an address was given by Mr. C. W. Sutton, librarian of the Manchester Free Libraries.

NEWTON HEATH.—At a meeting, on December 11, of the ratepayers of Newton Heath, a local board district adjoining Manchester, a resolution was passed adopting the Libraries Acts, but, on the demand of a ratepayer present, a poll of the ratepayers was ordered to be taken.

NORTHWICH.—Mr. F. A. Howe, Sub-librarian of the Leamington Free Public Library, has been appointed Librarian of the Brunner Free Library, Northwich. The library buildings were the gift of Mr. J. T. Brunner. The value of the buildings is about £2,000, and Mr. Brunner has also given £1,000 for the purchase of books.

TYLDESLEY.—At a meeting of the Tyldesley Local Board, held on 24th November, a suggestion was made that the Queen's Jubilee should be commemorated in that town by adopting the Free Libraries Acts, and a committee was appointed to consider the best way of carrying the suggestion into effect.

WANDSWORTH.—Mr. Cecil T. Davis, of the Birmingham Free Public Reference Library, has been appointed to the Librarianship of the Free Public Library at Wandsworth.

WIDNES.—Miss Proctor, Schoolmistress, Halebank, has been appointed Librarian of the Free Library. The salary is £65 per annum.

We understand that a movement is in progress in the establishment of a Free Library for Marylebone and Paddington, and also for Kensington.

Our members will have heard with great regret that Mr. MacAlister has met with a great loss, through the destruction of his house and its contents by fire. Mr. MacAlister has lost, besides his house and furniture, the MS. of a book on which he had been engaged for many years, and the revise of the Leeds Library Catalogue.

The November number of *Edgbastonia* contains a biography, with portrait, of Mr. J. D. Mullins, Chief Librarian of the Birmingham Free Libraries.

The *Town Crier*, a local Birmingham periodical, for December, contains the following sketch of a Birmingham worthy, and (need we say?) a worthy of the Library Association:—

We understand that at the suggestion of the Rev. S. A. Barnett, Sir John Lubbock proposes to introduce a new Bill to facilitate the establishment of Free Libraries in villages and in Metropolitan parishes.

Library Catalogues and Reports.

Handsworth Public Library. Catalogue of Musical Works. 8vo, pp. 20.

This is a list of nearly 700 musical works in the lending department.

Leamington Spa Free Public Library. Catalogue of the Lending Department, 1886. 4to, pp. 167, cloth back, 8*d*.

This is a clearly printed index catalogue in double columns. As a rule the books appear under their leading title, subject matter, and author. Against each work is to be found its class letter.

Manor of Aston Local Board. The Eighth Annual Report of the Free Libraries Committee. March 26th, 1885, to March 25th, 1886. 8vo, pp. 18.

The number of volumes reported as being in the reference library was 3,860, and in the lending library 6,399. Of these 697 were added during the year reported upon. The issues were, in the reference library 14,599, and from the lending 73,368 vols. There were about 2,500 borrowers. A musical section was formed in January comprising 109 vols. The monthly average issue was 97. The Wenham lamps in use at Aston are highly spoken of. The fourteen free lectures delivered were well attended. The expenditure for the year was £596.

Borough of Bradford. Sixteenth Annual Report of the Public Free Libraries and Art Museum Committee for the year ended Aug. 14, 1886. 8vo, pp. 20.

This Committee has now control over an art museum, the central reading rooms, reference and lending libraries, and seven branch reading rooms and libraries. The central libraries contain 30,451 vols., and the branches 18,583, making in all 49,034 vols., being 3,061 more than last reported. The year's issues were as follows :—reference library and art library 72,761 vols., central lending library 146,581 vols., and the branches 189,085, making the total issues 408,427 vols., against 378,290 vols. in 1884-5. The total issues and attendances for the year were 1,787,470, being an increase of 210,981 on the previous year's figures. There were 313,485 visits to the art museum, which are included in these totals. The Manchester Road branch library was to be ready for opening about Nov. 1, when the Ryan Street branch will be closed. The secretary and chief librarian is Mr. Butler Wood.

Borough of Bolton. Thirty-third Annual Report of the Bolton Public Free Library Committee, 1885-6. 8vo, pp. 16.

The central library building has been purchased. A portion has been used since 1853, and of recent years the whole of it, for library purposes. A plot of land has been given by Mr. J. Heywood as a site for a branch library. The Committee contemplate the early removal of the Great Bolton Lending Library to more convenient and healthy rooms. The reference and two lending libraries, on Oct. 11, contained 57,246 vols., of which 29,241 are in the reference library. During the year there were 2,510 vols. added to stock, viz., 957 to the reference library and 1,553 to the lending libraries. The issues in the reference library during the year were 89,438 vols., of which 54,192 and 22,282 are classed as "magazines and general literature" (illustrated and non-illustrated) and "novels and romances." The daily average issues were 288. The increase reported is 2094. The issues from the Great and Little Bolton lending libraries were 48,589 vols. (or a daily average of 157) and 38,352 (or a daily average of 125) respectively, being 3,278 more than during the preceding year. The subscription library issues were 61,901 vols., being a decrease of the previous year's issues of 1,715. The number of subscribers is 373. 356 works (of 1,383 vols.) were transferred during the year. The penny rate realized £1,500. Mr. J. K. Waite is the librarian.

Clitheroe Free Library. Eighth Annual Report, 1885-6.

There are 624 members on the book, of which number 150 were added during the year. The library is only open at nights, the daily average issue being 161. £28. was expended upon new books. There were added to the stock 396 vols. The total stock of books reported was 4,238 vols. The annual average cost of maintenance since the formation of the library has been £72., or under three farthings in the £. Sale of catalogues, magazines, fines, &c. realized £13. 18s. 5d. Mr. James Robinson is secretary and librarian.

Borough of Derby. Fifteenth Annual Report of the Committee of the Derby Free Library and Museum, and 4th Annual Report of the Art Gallery Committee. Presented to the Town Council, November 9th, 1886. 8vo. pp. 27.

The Committee report a "steady increase in the popularity of the Institution," "the

increase made of the books in the reference library," and the large number of consultations of "patents." The year's issues were :—from the lending library 128,719, and in the reference library 21,419, in all 150,138 vols., being a daily average of 501 and 70 respectively, against 438 and 60. The visitors during the first week in April numbered 13,214. There are 13,256 vols. in the lending library, and 8,184 in the reference library. 1,356 borrowers were added during the year. The news rooms are very largely attended. The lighting arrangements were improved. The use of a Stott's gas governor had effected a great saving of gas. The art gallery was attended by 28,326 visitors during the year. The autumn exhibition (September to February) was attended by 9,067 persons. The Spring exhibition of photographs was visited by 16,426 persons. The curator gave a series of promenade concerts between Christmas and Easter. The annual exhibition of the Society of Painter-Etchers was held here. The museum has in part been re-arranged. The librarian and curator is Mr. W. Crowther.

Dundee Free Library. Report by the Free Library Committee to the Town Council of Dundee, November, 1886. 8vo. pp. 27.

The issues during the year which ended Sept. 30 amounted to 295,161 vols., an increase of 3,980 vols. over the preceding year's circulation. The quality of the reading in both the lending and the reference library has also improved. The issues from the lending library were 216,632 vols., being a daily average issue of 742 vols. This total exceeds that of the previous year by 10,315 vols. The issues of works of fiction were under 49 per cent. from the lending library. No personal or other guarantee is required, and the system is referred to approvingly. The Committee complain of the culpable carelessness of many borrowers in the use of books. The number of borrowers on the books is 7,719, of which 6,187 are males. The reference library issues were 78,529 vols., being 6,335 less than last reported. The falling off is only in popular illustrated works, there having been an increase in all other classes. 28 per cent. of the issues were in science and the arts, and nearly 16 per cent. in miscellaneous literature. The number of consultations to current periodicals, which are not included in the above statistics, are estimated at about 150,000. Many works on engineering and mechanical science were obtained during the year. The ventilation of the "reference reading hall" was improved, better tables and seats were provided, and the comfort of readers consulted in other ways. The membership of the Subscription Library considerably increased during the year. The total receipts amounted to £2,626, and the expenditure for libraries and museum £2,539. Mr. J. Maclauchlan is librarian, curator and secretary.

Report for the ninety-fifth year of Stirling's and Glasgow Public Library (1885-86); with proceedings at the Annual Meeting of Subscribers held on 13th April, 1886. 8vo. pp. 15.

The library was taken greater advantage of during the year than in any previous year. The issues were 185,929 vols., an increase of 21,566 on those of the previous year. They have increased sevenfold during the last five years. There were 33,749 specifications of patents consulted. 402 new vols. and 1,232 magazines were bought. There are 818 members. There is an adverse balance of £533. The original debt of £3,600 will be paid off at Martinmas, 1888. The Corporation of Glasgow pay £120 per annum for the care of patent publications here.

Borough of Kidderminster. Fifth Annual Report of the Free Library Committee to the Town Council. 1885-6. 8vo. pp. 17.

During the year 402 new borrowers were enrolled. The number of cards now in use is 2,530. All books are now allowed 21 days for reading instead of 28 as formerly. The stock consists of 3,739 vols., of which 194 were acquired during the year. A supplementary catalogue was printed. The news room is unsuitable for its purposes, being small and badly ventilated. There was an attendance of 206 per day one week in October. The Committee appeal for funds for erection of new premises. 33,567 vols. were issued from the library in 1885-6, against 29,424 in 1884-5. The library grant was £240. The year's receipts (including a balance of £9) amounted to £269, and the expenditure to £206, leaving a balance in hand of £62. £57 was expended in the purchase of books, periodicals and newspapers. Mr. Alfd. Penny is the librarian.

Thirty-fourth Annual Report to the Council of the City of Manchester on the working of the Public Free Libraries. 1885-6. 8vo. pp. 32.

The Committee report upon the death of Ald. Sir T. Baker, chairman of the Committee for nearly twenty-five years. They have arranged to open reading rooms in two recently incorporated districts. A new room has been provided at the free reference library for the

consultation of specifications, newspaper files, directories, &c., and the cellars have been adapted for the storage of books. The hours have been extended at branch reading rooms, and at the reference library. The number of visits made at the libraries and news rooms during the year was 2,750,000, being an increase of nearly 400 per day on the attendances of the previous year. For reading at home and in the reading rooms, 1,461,740 vols. were issued, against 1,381,149 in 1884-5. The daily average issues in all libraries was 4,150 vols. The issues were distributed as follows:—In the reference library 294,444 vols. in the reading rooms 440,848, and from the lending libraries 726,448. The Sunday issues during the year were, in the branch reading rooms 6,399 vols., in the boys' rooms 89,193, and in the reference library 13,616. The readers of magazines and newspapers at the branches on Sundays numbered over 155,000. There was a daily average attendance on Sundays of 4,980, against 4,818 in 1884-5. In the boys' rooms, which open in the evenings, 358,354 vols. were used. The total stock of books numbers 181,095 vols., of which 81,930 vols. are in the reference library, and 99,165 in the six branches. The additions to stock during the year numbered 4,938 vols. A valuable collection of Spanish literature has been presented to the reference library. There are 40,342 borrowers' cards in operation. A supplement to the reference library catalogue will be ready almost immediately. There are now 156 vols. of embossed books for the blind at the Deansgate branch.

The Annual Report of the Middlesbrough Free Library Committee. Nov. 9, 1886. 8vo. pp. 12.

The Committee started the year with an adverse balance, which has been increased (partly owing to a falling off in the library rate), although fewer books were purchased than usual. A collection of British birds has been purchased for £250, of which sum £100 will have to come from the library funds of next year, the balance having been undertaken to be collected by the indefatigable chairman and another gentleman. The number of vols. issued was 104,708, being 31 vols. to each borrower. "A striking feature of the issues has been the growing popularity of the juvenile section of the library." These were 5·70 per cent. in 1883, and 21·77 in 1885-6. The issues of this section were 38·93 per vol. during the year. The library now contains 13,502 vols., of which 1,949 are works of reference. The increase during the year 677 vols. The library will probably be removed in July next. Such Extracts from the Libraries Acts as affect Middlesbrough are printed in this report. Last year's rate realized £844, out of which a lending library, museum, and two reading rooms are supported. Mr. W. Sterzel is the librarian.

Borough of St. Helens. Ninth Annual Report of the Committee of the St. Helens Free Public Library, 1885-6.

The lending library, on Aug. 31, contained 10,222 vols. and the reference library 2,745, in all 12,967 vols. During the year covered by this report 1,672 vols. were added to stock. The issues from the lending library were 84,836 vols., against 73,602 in 1884-5. "Novels in two or more volumes are only reckoned as one book." More than 77 per cent. of the issues were works of fiction. 4,356 vols. were consulted in the reference, against 3,858 during the preceding year. The turn-over of stock was nearly seven times. The number of visits to the reading rooms was 202,859, against 159,780 in the previous year. The boys' reading room is a great success. The average attendance on Sundays was 168, and on week days 654. During the year there were 606 cards of membership issued. The question of establishing a branch library is under consideration. The rate realized £750, and fines, sales, &c., £51. The librarian is Mr. Alfred Lancaster.

Borough of Swansea. Twelfth Annual Report of the Public Library and Gallery of Art Committee, 1885-6. 8vo, pp. 27.

On Sept. 30 there were 19,493 vols. in the reference library, 6,528 in the central lending library, and 1,040 vols. in the Morriston branch lending library, making up a stock of 27,061 vols. The year's issues were 82,626 ; 55,224 ; and 7,314—a total of 145,164 vols., or a daily average of 483 vols. The issues from the central lending library were 5,794 vols. higher than in the previous year. No additions were made to the lending library stock, "owing to the restricted accommodation in the present building, but 651 vols. were added to the reference library. The central and three branch reading rooms are eminently popular. The catalogue of the Deffett Francis" collection (4,249 vols.) will shortly be issued. The compilation of a card catalogue of the reference library will shortly be commenced. It is anticipated that the new building will be opened early in 1887. The chairman, Mr. G. B. Brock, died Oct. 30. A long list of deficiencies in periodicals filed in the reference library is given in the report. Mr. S. E. Thompson's brother-librarians may possibly supply some of these. The library rate realized £773.

Record of Bibliography and Library Literature.

The Book Fancier; or, the Romance of Book collecting. By Percy Fitzgerald. London: Sampson, Low & Co. Sm. 8vo, pp. vii., 312. Price 5s.

Good natured gossip on the following subjects: of book collectors and book dealers; of the Mazarine Bible; concerning the incunables or cradle books; of the Elzevirs, Plantins, and old printers; of Caxtons, and of the English printers; of the library; of binding and its curiosities; curiosities of printing; of Grangerising and Dickensiana; of illustrated books and "luxurious editions"; of the auction room; of the Shakespeare folios and quartos. We hope that if Mr. Fitzgerald produces a second edition of his little book he will reduce the number of the misprints.

Early Belfast Printed Books. Belfast, 1886. La. 8vo, pp. 17.

This is the first instalment of a chronological list issued by the committee of the Linen Hall Library of Belfast, and originated in an attempt to carry out the suggestions as to local collections made at Dublin by Mr. Bradshaw, who took considerable interest in the present experiment. This list extends from 1694 to 1751, and includes all works now known to exist, with an indication of some library or collection in which they may be found, or of which an authentic record exists. There is also a Note on Blow's Bible based on a collation of 6 copies. The work appears to have been done with great care.

Bibliothèque technique du Cercle de la Librairie. Inventaire des marques d'imprimeurs et des libraires. Premier fascicule: Ville de Paris. Paris: au Cercle de la Librairie, 1886. La. 8vo, pp. 43. Price 5s.

A handsome publication. This first part includes the description of 425 marks, belonging to 269 printers, booksellers, publishers, &c., of the City of Paris, from the earlier time to 1789. The subsequent period will form the subject of a separate work. The printers of Lyons and other French towns will next be dealt with, and then those of Italy, Germany, England, and other countries.

Die Ausgaben der Imitatio Christi in der Kölner Stadtbibliothek bibliographisch bearbeitet von Dr. E. Fromm. Köln, 1886, Du Mont-Schauberg. 8vo, pp. xvi., 129.

The second of the publications of the Cologne Town Library is devoted to its special collection of editions of the *Imitatio Christi*, and of works bearing upon its history and authorship. Of the 496 editions and translations now in the collection, 415 were bequeathed to the town by Freiherr von Büllingen, who died in 1848. The entire number of works here catalogued is 530. The work has been most carefully performed, and Dr. Fromm has added full indexes of places, printers, and editors. We hope to give a fuller notice of this interesting collection.

In the November number of the *Library Journal*, Mr. Bowker continues his "Memories among English Librarians," and reproduces the photographic picture of the Association taken at Cambridge. Mr. Tedder gives an account of the recent London meeting.

The first portion of a Paper on "The Extension of Free Libraries" appeared in the *Queen* for November 6th.

The *Leisure Hour* for December contains a Paper, by F. M. Holmes, on "Free Libraries," based on Mr. Greenwood's work on "Free Public Libraries."

The library of Mr. W. C. Borlase, M.P., will be sold at Sotheby's early in the year. It comprises an extensive collection of works relating to Cornwall, and some rare MSS.

Correspondence.

Libraries for the Blind.

I have just received a prospectus of Dr. Moon's "Books for the Blind," the receipt of which reminds me of the business aspect of one of the questions discussed at our last meeting in London, also of the error committed in the paper read by one of my late assistants upon the subject of "Books for the Blind in Towns."

According to Mr. Briscoe's Paper, you might deduce that Leeds only possesses

eleven volumes for this special class, whereas, in addition to this number, which was quoted to him in answer to his question, what number of such books had we in our library, there is a Blind Institution in the town containing a library of 350 volumes, and these are available for circulation without any restriction amongst the respectable blind. As the total issue of our eleven volumes during the past year only amounted to twelve, I should not feel justified in recommending my committee to compete with such an admirable institution as the one we have, absorbing our funds and monopolising our space with literature which the Blind Institution is far better capable of collecting and distributing. It is the same with Law Books. Had Dr. Pollock, in preparing his Paper on Law Libraries, written to me asking the number of Law Books contained in our library, Leeds would again have appeared very far behind, for the reason that, having a Law Library in connection with the Town Hall, I never advise the purchase for this library of duplicate sets of the statutes, &c., considering one copy quite enough for the use of the town.

In conclusion, I think it would be better if the writers of Papers, when asking for statistics, would state what deductions are intended to be drawn from the information asked for, and whether it is wanted for the purpose of comparison or otherwise.

JAMES YATES.

LORD B——— AND LORD B * * * * * * *

Since the appearance of the November number of the LIBRARY CHRONICLE I have been informed, through the courtesy of Mr. W. H. Allnutt, of the Bodleian Library, that the author of "Masters and Workmen" wrote still another work; this was entitled, "Uncle Armstrong. A narrative. In three volumes. By Lord B * * * * * * M. Author of "Masters and Workmen," "The Fate of Folly," "Naples," &c. London: T. Cautley Newby, publisher, 30, Welbeck Street, Cavendish Square, 1866. 8vo." This title seems to make it appear that the writer, whoever he was, attempted to obtain a circulation for his own work by leading the public to believe that it was written by Lord Brougham.

GEORGE C. BOASE.

LIBRARY STATISTICS.

With reference to Mr. Briscoe's letter in last number, I desire to express my concern that I should unwittingly have helped in any way to disseminate what he avers to be inaccurate information with respect to the Nottingham Libraries. At the same time it may be well that I should state the circumstances of the case as far as I am concerned in it. While the report of the library that is under my charge was being prepared for the press, in the month of September last, the fifth report of the Newcastle Public Libraries came into my hands, and suggested the introduction of a feature into the Aberdeen report which I had not previously thought of. This was to present alongside of the statement with regard to some English libraries given in Table V. of the Newcastle Report a similar statement with regard to two Scottish libraries. Not that I was greatly impressed with the practical value of such a comparative statement. The fact that the returns in the Newcastle table were in some cases for twelve and in other cases for eighteen months, while the return for Aberdeen could only be for six months, was a serious bar to this. Nevertheless, even so, the statement was not without some interest of a kind, and might at least be ranked beside that of Newcastle. The returns given in the latter I did not adopt without first testing their accuracy as far as I could with the means at my immediate command. Unfortunately, these last did not cover the case of the Nottingham Libraries, and I had to accept the Newcastle figures respecting them on trust. This I did the more willingly as I had not seen them challenged.

A. W. ROBERTSON.

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